SECOND EDITION.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 20,847. {Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

SYDNEY, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1904.

10 PAGES.

PRICE 1d.

[For Notices of Births, Marriages, Deaths, &c., See Page 6.]

SUMMARY.

The Japanese have captured Erhlung-shan, one of the eastern forts of the inner line of defence of Port Arthur.

They first blew up the parapet in front, took it by assault, and constructed defence works under cover of artillery.

The Russians made a stout resistance, but eventually the whole fort fell into the hands of the Japanese.

Dynamiting operations to construct parallels against the eastern segment of the main enceinte of Port Arthur are progressing.

The right wing of the besiegers continues its heavy effective shelling of the new town.

Preparations for a simultaneous attack on the east and west faces of the fortress are nearing completion.

General Kondratchenko was killed at 203-Metre Hill. General Smirnoff has been wounded, and General Stoessel injured by a fall from his horse.

Itsu-shan fort contains the remnant of the garrison artillery from 203-Metre Hill and mounts 15 guns.

The Japanese have destroyed five of the guns and disabled 1000 men.

Prisoners who have arrived at Tokio assert that 3000 Russians were killed and 5000 others injured at 203-Metre Hill.

Prince Yeldaroff was killed in a skirmish at Pei-tsia-hun on the Hun-ho.

An attempt has been made to destroy the railway bridge and the railway at Paniainice, Russian Poland, to prevent the transport of reserves to the front.

At the great reform meeting at St. Petersburg on Monday the speakers included the director of the "Russ," three socialist workmen, and the Mayor of Baku.

One resolution condemned the war with Japan as senseless and ruinous.

Another affirmed that only free representatives of the people elected by secret ballot on the principle of equal rights would be able to extricate Russia.

It is reported at Zurich, Switzerland, that the Nihilists are preparing for an unprecedentedly active campaign in Russia.

Whilst the chief of police was walking along the main street of Schuscha, in the Caucasus, he was murdered, seven shots being fired at him.

The War Office has ordered a sufficient number of 18½-pounders to rearm the whole army.

The Sultan of Morocco has promised to comply with a request of the shereefs at Fez to cause a rupture of diplomatic relations with France.

The superintendent of the Technical College, in reply to criticisms by the master builders, says that the college is doing very useful work.

It has no pretension to turn out thoroughly trained workmen, he says, but only to give them instruction in the principles of their arts.

The Southern miners are prosecuting the North Bulli colliery owners for an alleged breach of the rule "the last to come the first to go."

The defendants dismissed their miners upon the introduction of coal-cutting machines, and the miners claim that the rule should apply to selecting shovellers.

The chairman of the Outtrim Howitt Coal Company complains that as the result of cut-throat competition coal is cheaper in Melbourne than in Sydney.

Mr. Wade says that it would be unnecessarily extravagant to continue the Circuit [illegible] at Broken Hill, Wodgee, and Young.

A heat wave swept over the State yesterday. At many places the temperature was 110deg. and at Bourke it was 113deg.

The mails brought by the R.M.S. India, dated London, December 2, will be delivered in Sydney on Wednesday.

The general purposes committee of the City Council yesterday discussed the proposed absorption of Camperdown.

The Lord Mayor reported that as the borough's creditors would not agree to a compromise he was opposed to further action.

The council decided to hold another meeting within a fortnight to deal with the matter.

The regulations are to be revised to make hotelkeepers and others who keep telephones for the use of customers adopt the coupon system.

The Sea Carriage of Goods Bill, which deals with bills of lading, will come into operation on Monday.

Sir George Turner has so far recovered from his illness that he is able to leave his house.

Starlings are to be declared vermin in Victoria under the Vermin Destruction Act, and a bonus will be paid for their destruction.

Only half the cotton seed secured by the Queensland Government from America has been applied for by farmers.

Much satisfaction is expressed in Carcoar, where there are iron ore deposits, at the action of the Government in calling for tenders for local iron supplies.

At a North Rockhampton council meeting one alderman struck another alderman in the face, inflicting a wound over the left eye.

The delay in the arrival of the steamer Eastern at Thursday Island was due to the vessel encountering a cyclone.

Our Gundagai correspondent gives some graphic details of the bush fire in that district.

Many of the settlers, who had only been in occupation of their holdings for a year, lost all their crops and grass.

A woman in charge of a number of children raced the flames in a cart for a mile, and eventually reached a place of safety.

The Queensland Parliament will be opened on Wednesday next to deal with electoral matters.

Alma Lewis, aged 5 years, whilst wearing a flannelette dress, was burned to death at Ballina.

Last evening Nellie Gardiner, aged 18, and Fanny Kennedy, aged 12, were drowned whilst bathing in the Wollombi River at Hillgrove.

A verdict of suicide was recorded in the case of Patrick George Hewitson, a school teacher, of Parramatta, who was found dead in the Domain.

In the New Zealand lawn tennis tournament, Parker won the championship singles.

At the Wanganui swimming carnival, R. Cavill won the 100 yards handicap, and J. M. Hamilton made a record in the 220 yards championship.

The rules of the Arbitration Court have been revised mainly with regard to applications for the common rule.

The steamer Milton, which was seriously overdue at Bunbury from Table Bay, has put into Mauritius with her tail shaft broken.

A cyclonic storm has occurred on the Western Australian goldfields, causing great damage to property.

Mr. R. Stephens, a grazier, was drowned in the Murray River whilst duck-shooting on Wednesday.

The Postmaster-General is considering the advisability of using the early morning trains to Bathurst and Goulburn for postal purposes.

The Federal Government will probably introduce a bill next season to make the wireless telegraphy business a Government monopoly.

At the Chinese Village Fete a net collapsed when a man had jumped into it from a height of 50ft., but the performer was not seriously injured.

It is reported that operations with a view of raising the wrecked steamer Australia are progressing satisfactorily.

It will be known about the middle of January whether it will be possible to refloat the vessel.

In Regent-street, near Terminus-street, last night, Joseph Gardiner, aged 18, a tinsmith, shot Emma Forbes Black, a domestic servant.

One bullet took effect in the girl's left cheek, and another bullet struck her in the left arm.

Gardiner, who is believed to have been actuated by jealousy, afterwards attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself in the head.

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Tussore Silk	25s 0d
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SAC COATS.

White Drill	7s 6d
White Duck	7s 6d, 10s 6d
Russia Crash	3s 6d
Khaki Drill	7s 6d
Grey Alpaca	9s 6d
Black Alpaca	7s 6d, 10s 6d, 12s 6d
Coloured Silk	12s 6d
China Silk	14s 6d, 21s
Pongee Silk	18s 6d
Black Surah Silk	25s
Navy Flannel (cord on edges)	6s 6d
Striped Flannel (club colours)	12s 6d
Navy Blue Serge (unlined)	10s 6d

TROUSERS.

White Drill	3s 6d
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Brown Holland	6s 6d, 7s 6d
Grey Flannel	12s 6d
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Cream Serge	10s 6d, 14s 6d
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			1905.
HIMALAYA	6,898	W. L. Broun, R.N.R.	Jan. 7
INDIA	7,911	F. W. Vibert, R.N.R.	Jan. 21
BRITANNIA	6,355	C. L. Daniel	Feb. 4
*aMONGOLIA	10,000	C. F. Preston, R.N.R.	Feb. 18
*OCEANA	6,949	E. Street	Mch. 3
*aMARMORA	10,500	G. L. Langborne	Mch. 15
*CHINA	7,912	G. K. Wright, R.N.R.	Mch. 29
*aMOLDAVIA	10,000	E. H. Gordon	Apl. 12
VICTORIA	6,522	R. L. Haddock, R.N.R.	Apl. 29
HIMALAYA	6,898	W. L. Broun, R.N.R.	May 13
INDIA	7,911	F. W. Vibert, R.N.R.	May 27

*Via Hobart. a Twin-screw.

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The F.M.S. ARMAND BEHIC will sail from NEUTRAL BAY on MONDAY NEXT, the 2nd JANUARY at 11 A.M. PASSENGERS and their LUGGAGE will be conveyed on board by Tender leaving the Company's Wharf at 10 A.M. PUNCTUALLY.
R. BRASIER DE THUY, Principal Agent.

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NATAL, CAPETOWN, PLYMOUTH, and LONDON, REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE.

*NINEVEH	A. Robb	Noon	Dec. 26
SALAMIS	A. Douglas	Noon	Jan. 21
†MARATHON	N. Allan	Noon	Feb. 4

*This Steamer will discharge at Durban Wharf, †Twin Screw.
FARES:

	Saloon.	3rd Class.
London, from £52	£16 0s 0d to £20 0s 0d	
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WHITE STAR LINE.
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Twin-screw 12,000-ton Steamers.
MEDIC, to sail on 31st DECEMBER, at 10 a.m.
AFRIC, SUEVIC, PERSIC, and RUNIC to follow.
FARES.—Capetown or Durban, £14 14s to £33 2s; London, £19 1s to £35.
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Steamer.	Tons.	Commander.	Sydney 1.30.	Adelaide.
			1905.	1905.
*GNEISENAU	8,081	H. Bleeker	Jan. 7	Jan. 14
*RHEIN	10,036	G. Rotz	Jan. 28	Feb. 4
*FRIEDRICH d. G.	10,036	M. Ziechel	Feb. 18	Feb. 25
*BREMEN	11,370	D. Nierlich	Mar. 11	Mar. 18
*SCHARNHORST	8,131	C. Gross	April 1	April 8

*Twin-screw steamers.
Leaving MELBOURNE Tuesday after Sydney.
FARES TO LONDON:

	Single.	Return.
First Saloon	£66 to £77	£115
Second Saloon	£38 to £42	£63
Third Class	£15 to £17	£27

Saloon Return Tickets are now available for TWO YEARS.
ROUND THE WORLD, £130, with £20 Atlantic berth.
REDUCED FARES THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ.

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REGULAR SIX WEEKLY SERVICE, calling at BRISBANE, NEW BRITAIN, and NEW GUINEA, for HONGKONG, KOBE, and YOKOHAMA, connecting at Hongkong with the FORTNIGHTLY EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE of the N.D.L. from Japan and China to Europe.
PRINZ HEINRICH (Twin Screw).....3300 tons[illegible] 4[illegible]
PRINZ WALDEMAR (Twin Screw).....3000 tons Mar. 4
Fares to Hongkong:—1, £33; II., £21; III., £15; Deck, £9.
Linen washed on board at moderate prices.
Civility and cleanliness leading features.
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Steamers of 6000 tons, under postal contract with the French Government, calling at MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, FREMANTLE, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, SUEZ, and PORT SAID, will be despatched monthly, as follows:—

Steamer.	Commander.	Sydney, 10 a.m.	Melb., 1 p.m.	A'laide, 1 p.m.
		1905.	1905.	1905.
ARMAND BEHIC	Guionnet	Jan. 2	Jan. 5	Jan. 7
VILLE DE LA CIOTAT	Fiaschi	Jan. 30	Feb. 2	Feb. 4
TARRA	Sellier	Feb. 27	Mar. 2	Mar. 4
CALEDONIEN	Gregory	Mar. 27	Mar. 30	April 1

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"E. AND A. MAIL LINE."
TO
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via
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Steamer.	Tons.	Commander.	Sydney.
EASTERN	3600	WINTHROP ELLIS.	18th JAN.
AUSTRALIAN	3700	W. G. M'ARTHUR.	15th FEB.
EMPIRE	4300	P. T. HELMS.	15th MAR.
EASTERN	3600	WINTHROP ELLIS	12th APR.

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Steamer.	Tons.	Commander.	Leave Sydney.
*CHANGSHA	2300	T. MOORE	JAN. 24
CHINGTU	2300	L. McD. HOWIE	FEB. 6
TAIYUAN	2300	L. DAWSON	MCH. 6
TSINAN	2300	W. R. BROWN	MCH. 27

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FOR MELBOURNE, GEELONG, PORTLAND, WARRNAMBOOL	GABO, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, 1 p.m.
	PEREGRINE, SATURDAY, Jan. 7, 1 p.m.
ADELAIDE, FREMANTLE, GERALDTON	COOLGARDIE, TUESDAY, January 10, 5 p.m.
BRISBANE, MARYBOROUGH, BUNDABERG, ROCKHAMPTON, GLADSTONE, MACKAY, TOWNSVILLE, CAIRNS, and RIVER PORTS.	TYRIAN, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, 2 p.m.
	GABO, SATURDAY, Jan. 7, 2 p.m.

To ensure shipment, Cargo must be delivered at wharf one hour before advertised time of sailing.
CARGO FOR ALL PORTS RECEIVED DAILY.
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HAWKESBURY STEAM N. COY.—S.S. Hawkesbury, from Hawkesbury Wharf, foot Market-street, for Hawkesbury River, Pittwater, Newport. Cargo received till 5 p.m. this day. Tel. 1638.
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For PLYMOUTH and LONDON, calling at Fremantle (W.A.), Colombo (transhipping for all Indian ports), Suez Canal Ports:—

R.M.S.	Tons.	Commander.	Sydney, noon.	Melb.	Adel.
*OPHIR	6814	Kershaw	Dec. 31	Jan. 2	Jan. 5
OROTAVA	5856	Collins	Jan. 14	Jan. 17	Jan. 19
OROYA	6297	Jenks	Jan. 28	Jan. 31	—
ORMUZ	6465	Coad	Feb. 11	Feb. 14	—
*ORTONA	8000	Fletcher	Feb. 22	Feb. 28	—
†ORIZABA	6297	Archer	Mar. 8	Mar. 14	—
†*ORMONDE	9023	Ruthven	Mar. 22	Mar. 28	—
†*ORMAH	8291	Symons	Apl. 5	Apl. 11	—
†*OPHIR	6814	Kershaw	Apl. 19	Apl. 25	—

† Calling at Hobart. *Twin-screw Steamer.
SALOON: Single, £38 to £77: Return, £66 and £115.
Return Tickets available for Two Years.
Third Class (liberal dietary scale), £17, £19, £21.
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Passages from any port can be prepaid here.
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THE "ALL-RED" ROUTE.
STEAMERS SAIL
JANY. 23, FEB. 20, MARCH 20.
THE FAVOURITE ROUTE TO ENGLAND.
THE CHEAPEST ROUTE TO AMERICA.
ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLETS FURNISHED FREE.
Union S.S. Co. of N.Z., Ltd., Managing Agents.
WILLIAM STITT, General Passenger Agent.

UNION LINE.
Steamers are despatched as follows, weather and other circumstances permitting, from the Company's Wharves, Margaret and Sussex streets. Cargo will not be received within two hours of steamer's sailing:—

NEW ZEALAND.
FOR AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, transhipping to outports:—
MOKOIA, WEDNESDAY, January 4, at noon.
MANUKA (Twin Screw), WEDNESDAY, January 18, at noon.
For WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, BLUFF, HOBART, and MELBOURNE (Transhipping to outports):—
WAIKARE, SATURDAY, 7th January, at noon. (Proceeds on Excursion to West Coast Sounds.)
NO CARGO WILL BE RECEIVED AFTER 10 A.M.
WARRIMOO, SATURDAY, 14th January, at noon.

TASMANIA.
For HOBART DIRECT:—
OONAH, TO-DAY, FRIDAY, December 30, noon; Jan. 7, 16, and 26.
From HOBART.—January 2, 10, 21, and 31.
For LAUNCESTON, via EDEN:—
WAKATIPU, THURSDAY, January 5, at 10 a.m.
From LAUNCESTON.—January 11th and 25th.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.
For FIJI (Lautoka, Suva, Levuka), SAMOA (Apia), TONGA (Vavau, Haapai, Nukualofa), thence to Auckland:—
HAUROTO, TUESDAY, January 10.
For TONGA (Nukualofa, Haapai, and Vavau), SAMOA (Apia), FIJI, thence to SYDNEY:—
MANAPOURI, from Auckland, WEDNESDAY, January 11.
For FIJI DIRECT (Suva and Levuka), from Auckland, NAVUA (Twin Screw), WEDNESDAY, January 25.

EASTERN PACIFIC SERVICE.
For TAHITI and RARATONGA:—
TAVIUNI (from Auckland), TUESDAY, January 24, connecting steamer from Sydney, MANUKA, January 18.
FROM MELBOURNE.
For NEW ZEALAND PORTS, via HOBART and BLUFF:—
MOKOIA, THURSDAY, January 5th, at 4 p.m.
For LAUNCESTON.—LOONGANA (Turbine Steamer), MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and FRIDAYS.
From LAUNCESTON.—TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and SATURDAYS.
STRAHAN (Zeehan Goldfields).—KAWATIRI, TUESDAY, January 4th, at noon.
For N. W. COAST PORTS (Tas.).—FLORA, TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS.

Tickets available for stop-over or return by Huddart, Parker, and Co.'s steamers.

For leaflets and full particulars apply to UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, Limited.
FREDK. W. JACKSON, Manager.

LUND'S BLUE ANCHOR LINE.
To NATAL, CAPETOWN, and LONDON.

Steamer.	Tons.	Commander.	Sails.
*Commonwealth	8617	H. G. Thomas	Jan. 18
Wakool	3013	J. R. Brodie, R.N.R.	Mch. 17.

*Twin Screw.
FARES:—Sydney to London, £16 to £52.
Sydney to South Africa, £13 13s to £31 10s
For further particulars apply to
GILCHRIST, WATT, and SANDERSON, Ltd., Agents, 7 Bent-street.

SEA CARRIAGE OF GOODS ACT.
In order to give effect to the above Act, SHIPPERS ARE HEREBY INFORMED that on and after January 1st, 1905, it will be necessary for them to obtain from Interstate Shipowners a slip, which they must attach to all Bills of Lading or Shipping Receipts before they will be signed.
The slips can now be obtained from the undermentioned companies:—
Adelaide S.S. Company, Ltd.
A.U.S.N. Company, Ltd.
Hubbert Parker and Co. Pty., Ltd.
Howard Smith Company, Ltd.
McIlwraith, McEacharn, and Co., Ltd.
Melbourne S.S. Company, Ltd.
Union S.S. Company of New Zealand, Ltd.

HUDDART, PARKER, AND CO.'S LINE
(Weather and other circumstances permitting.)
New Zealand Tickets for Stop-over and Return by Union Company's steamers, or vice versa.
Return portion of Coastal Tickets available by all Interstate Companies. Particulars on application.
Cargo will not be received within two hours of steamer's sailing.

NEW ZEALAND.
For WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, and BLUFF, HOBART, and MELBOURNE (transhipping to outports)—
WIMMERA, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, noon.
For AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, and DUNEDIN (transhipping to outports)—
ZEALANDIA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, noon.
VICTORIA, WEDNESDAY, January 25, noon.
From MELBOURNE, via HOBART and BLUFF—
WIMMERA, WEDNESDAY, January 18.

TASMANIA.
HOBART—
WESTRALIA—
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, noon; and JANUARY 31, 2[illegible]
From HOBART—
WESTRALIA, DEC. 31; JANUARY 7, 16, 26.
LAUNCESTON—
From MELBOURNE.—LOONGANA (Turbine Steamer), MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY.
From LAUNCESTON.—TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY.

MELBOURNE AND GEELONG.
BURRUMBEET, TUESDAY, JANUARY 24.

ADELAIDE AND WEST AUSTRALIA.
PEREGRINE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, Transhipping at Melbourne to
GRANTALA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, Calling at
ALBANY, FREMANTLE, Transhipping for Geraldton.
FARES AND FREIGHTS AT LOWEST RATES.
For particulars apply
HUDDART, PARKER, and CO. PROPRIETARY, Ltd.
Offices: Exchange Corner, 62 Pitt-street.
Wharfs: Margaret and Sussex streets.

THE MELBOURNE STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
REGULAR LINE OF PASSENGER STEAMERS,
From PYRMONT BRIDGE WHARF.

MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, ALBANY, FREMANTLE and PERTH, BUNBURY, GERALDTON	The Popular Steamer PERTH (3000 tons), SAT., DEC. 31, 1 p.m. (Without transhipment). To be followed by SYDNEY (3000 tons), January 17, at 5 p.m.

FARES:—£8 10s, Saloon, to Fremantle.
£12 15s, Return, Saloon, to Fremantle.
£24 10s, Steerage, to Fremantle.
ANDREW REID, Agent, 11 Macquarie-place.

PORT MACQUARIE, HASTINGS, and WILSON RIVER.—S.S. Hastings, Tuesday Next.
PORT STEPHENS, Bulladelah, and Booral Wharf.—S.S. Hawke, Saturday, at 5 p.m.
Cargo received daily.
ALEX. KETHEL and CO., Phoenix Wharf, Erskine-street.

THE PORT HUNTER AND SYDNEY STEAM PACKET SERVICE.—Cargo Steamers to and from NEWCASTLE EVERY NIGHT, except Sunday. S.S. SOPHIA ANN, TARSHAW. Cargo received till 5 p.m. Phoenix Wharf, Erskine-street.
H. M. MOORE, Manager.

HAWKESBURY R. and Newport S.S. Co.—S.S. Narra, for Newport, Hawkesbury R., leaves Russell's W. Cargo rec. till 5 p.m. This Day. Lowest freights.
MITCHELL and JOHNSTON, Agents, Tel., 2128.

BURNS, PHILP, AND CO., LIMITED.
BRIDGE-STREET, SYDNEY.
Agents for Steamers trading to All Parts of the World.
COMBINATION ROUND-THE-WORLD TOURS BY ANY ROUTE.
EXCURSION and SPECIAL SAILING to ALL PORTS on the AUSTRALIAN CONTINENT.
TO NEW ZEALAND, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, NEW YORK, and THROUGHOUT AMERICA.
TO SINGAPORE, BRITISH and GERMAN NEW GUINEA, DUTCH EAST INDIES.
MANILA, HONGKONG, and THROUGHOUT JAPAN.
LONDON, LIVERPOOL, and All Places THROUGHOUT EUROPE.
To the PACIFIC ISLANDS, NEW HEBRIDES, SOLOMONS, GILBERT and ELLICE ISLANDS, LORD HOWE and NORFOLK ISLANDS, FIJI, NEW CALEDONIA, PAGO PAGO.
To CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, and throughout INDIA and the EAST.
All desiring to travel should write for particulars, when an itinerary will be prepared showing cost, time occupied, variation of route, etc., etc.
Books, pamphlets, maps, passage and freight schedules, on application to
BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited.
10 Bridge-street, Sydney.

HOMEWARD THRO' AMERICA.
OCEANIC A. AND A. COMPANY, S.S. LINE.
THE SHORTEST SEA ROUTE.

R.M.S. Twin Screw.	Sydney, 1 p.m.	Auckland.	S. F'cisco.	London.
SONOMA	Jan. 3	Jan. 6	Jan 23	Feb. 4
VENTURA	Jan. 23	Jan. 27	Feb. 13	Feb. 25
SIERRA	Feb. 13	Feb. 17	March 6	March 18

AND EVERY THREE WEEKS THEREAFTER.

Sydney to Auckland	3½ days
Auckland to Samoa	4 "
Samoa to Honolulu	6½ "
Honolulu to San Francisco	5½ "
San Francisco to St. Louis or Chicago	5 "
Thence to Atlantic Seaboard, via Niagara Falls or Washington	1 "
Across the Atlantic to England	6 "

TICKETS CONFER BREAK OF JOURNEY WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE.
THE LARGEST, FASTEST, AND FINEST AUSTRALIAN-TRANSPACIFIC PASSENGER STEAMERS.
INQUIRE FOR FARES.
AS CHEAP AS ANY OTHER FIRST-CLASS LINE.
FAST LINE TO AUCKLAND.
SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED MATTER.
BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, Managing Agents, Corner Pitt and Bridge streets.

A.U.S.N. CO., LTD.
ROYAL MAIL COASTAL SERVICE.
THE POPULAR PASSENGER LINE.
From the Lime-street Wharfs.

FOR MELBOURNE,
ADAWATTA, TUESDAY, 5 p.m., January 3.
WYANDRA, TUESDAY, 5 p.m., January 10.
WODONGA, TUESDAY, 5 p.m., JANUARY 17.

ADELAIDE, Transhipping to Port Pirie.
Magnificent New STEAMSHIP KANOWNA,
7000 TONS, TWIN SCREWS, DECK CABINS.
FROM MELBOURNE, January 7. Passengers and cargo to connect. Leave per Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., January 3.
The largest and most up-to-date Steamship trading in the States, carrying FIRST and SECOND SALOON AND STEERAGE PASSENGERS. Early application for berths necessary.

FREMANTLE, Transhipping for PERTH, Geraldton, and North-west Ports.
BRISBANE, MARYBOROUGH, BUNDABERG, GLADSTONE, ROCKHAMPTON, TOWNSVILLE.
ALBANY (cargo only), TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, noon, December 31.
ARAMAC, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 3.
MACKAY, BOWEN, TOWNSVILLE, LUCINDA, GERALDTON, MOURILYAN HARBOUR, CAIRNS, PORT DOUGLAS, COOKTOWN.
ARAMAC, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 3.
ARAWATTA, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 10.
WYANDRA, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 17.
TUESDAY ISLAND, NORMANTON, BURKETOWN.
ALBANY (cargo only), TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, noon, December 31. (Transhipping at Brisbane.)
NOUMEA, LAUTOKA, SUVA, LEVUKA, FIJI.
PILBARRA, WEDNESDAY, p.m., January 25.

LOWEST CURRENT FARES AND FREIGHTS.
CARGO LANDED AT J

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

RAIL AND RIVER EXCURSIONS.

FOR THE HAWKESBURY RIVER.

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

Train will leave Sydney at 9.10 a.m. and Milson's Point at 8.50 a.m.

The River Trip will occupy about five hours.

RETURN FARES from Sydney and suburban stations (including Steamer Trip): First-class, 5s 6d; Second-class, 3s 6d.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained on board the steamer at reasonable rates.

FOR PARKESVALE.
(George's River), via COMO.
TO-MORROW (SATURDAY).

TRAIN will leave Sydney at 2.10 p.m., calling at all stations. Twenty-four miles by rail and 16 by steamer.

RETURN FARES from Sydney (including steamer trip): First-class, 2s 3d; Second-class, 1s 6d.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained on the Ground.

By order of the Commissioners,
H. McLACHLAN, Secretary.

New South Wales Government Railways,
Sydney, 29th December, 1904.

TENDERS for the undermentioned PURCHASES, SUPPLIES, etc., will be received at the Railway Commissioners' Office, until 12 o'clock on the dates specified:—

TUESDAY, 3rd JANUARY, 1905.
THE PURCHASE OF CABLE TRAMWAY PLANT. Particulars, Railway Stores, Eveleigh.

MONDAY, 16th JANUARY, 1905.
THE PURCHASE OF OLD LOCOMOTIVE, TENDER, CARRIAGE, and WAGGON, STEEL TYRES. Particulars Chief Mechanical Engineer's Office, Eveleigh.

MONDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 1905.
THE SUPPLY OF LUBRICATING OILS AND INCANDESCENT ELECTRIC LAMPS. Particulars, Railway Stores, Eveleigh.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order of the Commissioners.
H. McLACHLAN, Secretary.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE WILLIAMSON BIO-TABLEAU
DAILY MATINEES.
GRAND CHRISTMAS ATTRACTION,
Pantomime, Harlequinade, Fun, and Frolic.
BRING THE LITTLE ONES.
TO-DAY, FRIDAY, AT 2.30.
Children Half-price to All Parts.

QUEEN'S HALL, PITT-STREET
(Opposite Criterion Theatre).
Sole Lessee ..... Mr. Herbert Flemming.
Under the direction of Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
Bus. Mgr., Mr. W. J. Lincoln; Treas., Mr. W. B. Bryer.
EVERY AFTERNOON, at 2.30; EVERY EVENING, at 8.
WE LEAD! FOLLOW WHO CAN,
THIS IS NO IDLE BOAST,
FOR THE
WILLIAMSON BIO-TABLEAU
WILLIAMSON BIO-TABLEAU
AND
RUSSO-JAP. WAR
HAS PROVED ITS CLAIM AS BEING
THE VERY GREATEST PICTURE SHOW OF OUR GENERATION.
THE CHIEF REASON.
We do not merely project a series of pictures, but by SHEER INGENUITY, CLEVER MANIPULATION, DARING STAGECRAFT, and CREATIVE DEVICES, supplemented by APPROPRIATE INCIDENTAL MUSIC, EVOLVE into REALITY and LIFE the many subjects displayed.
ALL SYDNEY SHOULD WITNESS
OUR WONDERLAND OF PICTURES.
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME. Grand Panto Fantasy,
BRING THE LITTLE ONES. Submarina,
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
BRING THE LITTLE ONES. The Old Man of the Sea.
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME. Shadow Harlequinade,
BRING THE LITTLE ONES. Driven from Home,
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME. The Convict's Escape,
BRING THE LITTLE ONES. His Master's Voice.
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME. London Hawkers in
BRING THE LITTLE ONES. Cheapside.
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME. The Ballet Master's
BRING THE LITTLE ONES. Dream.
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME. The Milliner's Shop,
BRING THE LITTLE ONES. etc., etc.
and
GRAND SERIES OF RUSSO-JAP. WAR PICTURES, including
THE BATTLE OF LIAO-YANG
and
THE SIEGE OF PORT ARTUR.
New Illustrated Songs,
Mr. ERNEST FITTS.
Box Plan at Paling's. Popular Prices, 8s, 2s, 1s.
Day Sales at White Rose.

THE TATTOOED MAN AND JUGGLER AT THE CYCLORAMA.
Engaged for a Short Season. Tattooed from head to foot in colours. A Perfect Picture Gallery. Animals, Birds, and over 600 Novel Designs. An Expert Juggler in his Weird Garb. (See advt. under.)

THE CYCLORAMA.
The Glories of War and the Turmoil of Battle.
TATTOOED MARVEL. (See advt. above.)
Professional Chrono Cinematograph. Just Imported. These Living Pictures now a specialty.
See "Far East War Scenes," Man the Lifeboat, etc., shown now by Electric Light. Stirring, Thrilling Scenes.
The HUMAN BUTTERFLY and SERPENTINE DANCE, under Coloured Limelights.
NEW AND BEWILDERING ILLUSIONS.
Full Lectures at 3 and 8 p.m., with Effects, Cinematograph, Illusions, Music, Tattooed Man, etc.
OPEN 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Explanations at short intervals all day. ADMISSION to ALL, 1s; Children, 6d.

EPPING RACING CLUB.
THIS DAY, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30,
FIRST RACE AT 2.15 p.m.
Admission to Course: Saddling Paddock, Gentlemen 5s, Ladies 2s 6d; Leger Reserve, 2s.
Electric Trams—Forest Lodge and Balmain, via George-street, to Racecourse Gates, at 12.45 p.m., and at intervals of 3 minutes throughout the afternoon.
Through Fare, Twopence; from Railway Gates, One Penny.
S. PETERS, Secretary.
21 Imperial Arcade, Pitt-street. Tel. No., 554.

KENSINGTON RACING CLUB.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4.
16.0 HANDICAP, of 30 sovs. 5 furlongs.
14.1 HANDICAP, of 30 sovs. 4½ furlongs.
NOVICE HANDICAP (15.0), of 25 sovs; for all horses that have never won 15 sovs. 4½ fur.
14.0 HANDICAP, of 30 sovs. 5 furlongs.
14.2 WELTER HANDICAP, of 30 sovs. 4½ furlongs.
KENSINGTON HANDICAP (15.0), of 55 sovs. 1 mile.
ENTRIES CLOSE, THIS DAY, Friday, at 5 p.m.
189 Castlereagh-street. A. HENNINGHAM, Sec.
Tel. No., 774.

TATTERSALL'S CLUB, SYDNEY.
ANNUAL RACE MEETING,
RANDWICK RACECOURSE.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31st, FIRST RACE STARTS AT 1.30,
and
MONDAY, JANUARY 2nd, FIRST RACE STARTS AT 1 P.M.
MEMBERS may obtain TWO LADIES' TICKETS on application to the undersigned not later than FRIDAY, 30th inst.
TRAINERS' and JOCKEYS' TICKETS will be issued on FRIDAY, the 30th inst., up to 4 p.m., at No. 2 Office, Tattersall's Club-chambers.
J. B. OLLIFFE, Secretary.

TATTERSALL'S CLUB, SYDNEY.
ANNUAL RACE MEETING,
RANDWICK.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1904.
HURDLE RACE.
LADY RAWSON STAKES.
THE CARRINGTON STAKES.
THE JUVENILE STAKES.
THE PACE WELTER HANDICAP.
THE NORTHCOTE HANDICAP.
FIRST RACE STARTS AT 1.30.
J. B. OLLIFFE, Secretary.

TATTERSALL'S CLUB, SYDNEY.
ANNUAL RACE MEETING,
RANDWICK.
MONDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 1905.
THE FLYING WELTER.
THE NURSERY HANDICAP.
THE NEW YEAR'S GIFT.
TATTERSALL'S CLUB CUP.
THE STEEPLECHASE.
THE WELTER HANDICAP.
J. B. OLLIFFE, Secretary.

MANLY BEACH, MANLY BEACH.
The only Seaside to take the Children for their Holidays, plenty of fun and a Cheap Trip.
Steamers from No. 3 Jetty, Circular Quay.

PATIENCE.
THE LAST MATINEE.
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON NEXT, AT 2.
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
LAST 7 NIGHTS
of
GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S MASTERPIECE,
PATIENCE,
"Hey, but I am doleful, willow, willy, waly."
"PATIENCE."
"PATIENCE."
"PATIENCE."
THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30,
at 8,
in the heyday of its success,
"PATIENCE."
Interpreted by
MR. WILLIAMSON'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
Prices as usual. Box Plan at Paling's from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Day Tickets at Giraud's Confectionery, Market-street, and Callese, Fruiterer, next Stage Entrance.
Carriages, 10.40, set down and take up at Market-street.
G. L. GOODMAN, Bus. Manager.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
on
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6th, 1905,
Gilbert and Sullivan's Evergreen Opera,
H.M.S. PINAFORE,
Presented with
AN EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG CAST,
which will include
MISS ALEXIA BASSIAN,
Prima Donna from the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, and
MR. CHARLES DANBY,
The Popular Comedian who visited Australia with the Leslie-Farren Company.
PRELIMINARY BOOKING.
Applications, stating number of seats required, and covering cheque, with fee of 2s 6d per seat added, will now be received by letter only addressed to the undersigned.
G. L. GOODMAN, Bus. Manager.

SYDNEY'S FAIRLAND
AND LEADING AMUSEMENT INSTITUTION,
PHILLIP PARK,
next to St. Mary's Cathedral.
WIRTH BROS.'
GREAT ALLIED SHOWS
CIRCUS, HIPPODROME, WILD ANIMAL ARENA, MUSEUM, ZOO, and WILD WEST COMBINED SHOWS.
ELEPHANTS, CAMELS, AND WILDE BEESTES.
COME AND SEE THE BABY ELEPHANT,
the first and only elephant born in Australia,
and
CHEFALO,
the talk of the whole world,
the Dauntless, Daring Demon,
the Highest Salaried Artist ever visited Australia,
LEAPING THE CHASM,
the most thrilling and startling act on earth.
Gambling Nightly with Death.
TO-NIGHT, FRIDAY, a WILD HORSE, the property of J. MAHONY, of Granville, will be Ridden by J. MORRISEY.
PRICES, 4s, 3s, 2s, 1s. Plan at Paling's. Children half-price to Matinee only.
NOTICE TO OUR COUNTRY PATRONS.
WIRTH'S HUGE COMBINED SHOWS will NOT visit the country districts this season. Your only opportunity of seeing "Chefalo" and the rest of Wirth's specialities will be to see it here in Sydney.
SPECIAL MATINEE TO-MORROW AFTERNOON, at the CIRCUS, at 2.45, when the same programme will be submitted as evening. Children, Half-price to all parts.

LAST NIGHT BIOSCOPE SHOW,
CENTENARY HALL, TO-NIGHT.

THEATRE ROYAL.
LESSEE ..... Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
SUB-LESSEE ..... BLAND HOLT.
POPULAR PRICES.
2s, 1s, 1s. Early Door Tickets from 7 till 7.30, Sixpence Extra.
On
Account
of the many
and varied
Elements
of Attractiveness,
BLAND HOLT'S
Bright Australian Anecdote,
A DESPERATE GAME!
A DESPERATE GAME!
A DESPERATE GAME!
A DESPERATE GAME!
Admirably
meets the
requirements of
the Amusement-loving Public.
IT IS A DELIGHTFUL HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT.
Interpreted by the
PREMIER DRAMATIC ORGANISATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH.
Illustrated by
Mr. JOHN BRUNTON in a Series of
STRIKINGLY DESCRIPTIVE TABLEAUX.
COCKATOO FARM, HAPPY VALLEY,
ON THE SUMMIT OF "THE DEVIL'S TOOTH."
REALISTIC STORM EFFECTS.
GOLDFIELDS UP FROM PERTH.
WESTRALIAN FRUIT AND FLOWER SHOW.
COMIC CAPERS IN A COUNTRY POLICE COURT.
WORKING WHIM OF A GOLD MINE.
A CHURCH IN BUSHDOM.
BOX PLAN at ELVY'S, George-street. Booking Fee, One Shilling. Early-door Tickets at KLEISDORFF'S and FAVAS', King-street.
Children in arms not admitted.
CHRISTIE SIMONSENS, Business Manager.

A. A.
B.right B.right
C.hristmas. C.hristmas.
The above is our EARNEST WISH towards our CLIENTS and the PUBLIC in general.
WHAT ABOUT NEW YEAR DELICACIES?
Like the Brook we could go on for ever telling you of the hundred-and-one New Year Dainties we have imported and made to meet NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTRY VISITORS.
Two Addresses—NEXT TO AND OPPOSITE THE STRAND.

UNDER VICE-REGAL PATRONAGE.
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GROUNDS, MOORE PARK.
CHINESE VILLAGE
and
GRAND MONSTER CARNIVAL
GREAT WILD WEST SHOW
of 45 Performers and 40 Horses, Cow Boys and Girls, Indians, Rough-riders, etc., etc.
A LEAP FOR LIFE.
THE MOST THRILLING AND SENSATIONAL ACT EVER SEEN IN SYDNEY.
In addition to the above great show, the following additional attractions will be provided absolutely free of charge:—
GRAND CHINESE VILLAGE,
GRAND JAPANESE VILLAGE,
THE BOHEMIAN DRAMATIC COMPANY,
THE ALADDIN PANTOMIME COMPANY,
WINSTON'S VARIETY SHOW,
PROFESSOR MARCONI'S MARIONETTES,
BICYCLE RACES,
PONY RACES,
CHARIOT RACES.
WATCH THIS SPACE FOR SATURDAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.
1s TO ALL PARTS. CHILDREN 6d.

LAST NIGHT BIOSCOPE SHOW,
CENTENARY HALL, TO-NIGHT.

DEATH-DEFYING FEAT.—Looping the Death Trap, Phillip Park.

VICE-REGAL PHOTOGRAPHERS BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND THE STATE GOVERNOR.

COUNTRY VISITORS.

GET YOUR PHOTOS TAKEN NOW.

READ OUR SPECIAL OFFER.

IT IS AN INDIGNITY.

It is an indignity to give a Friend your Photograph taken at a cheap cost. The name of the Photographer is the Hall Mark of the Photo, which will only be appreciated according to its value. We use none but the very best materials, employ only the most skilled artists, and finish every Photograph with care and artistic finish.

THE NAME OF THE CROWN STUDIOS ON YOUR PHOTOGRAPH GIVES IT GREATER VALUE.

A GREAT EFFORT.
Ever since we have been in Sydney we have made a special offer for our Christmas customers. Therefore we now make our
FIFTEENTH SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFER,
and in doing so we assure our friends that we have best our whole strength to make this positively the best offer ever made in first-class photography.
Viz., ONE DOZEN Cabinet Portraits, mounted on our new artistic mount, and an ENLARGEMENT on a specially selected mount, and framed in a most expensive moulding, for 21s. Size of frame, about 30 x 24 inches.
NOTE.—The frames are of the best quality mouldings, of which you have a large collection for choice. SPECIMENS ARE NOW ON VIEW. Do not overlook it. The ENLARGEMENT is FRAMED at this price. To each sitter for this special offer we will supply proofs of three different positions, WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE; therefore everyone will be sure to get satisfactory results. It has taken us many years of constant effort to build up our splendid reputation for HIGH ART WORK, and our friends may feel assured that every order (even at this very low price) will receive our best attention, and the work will be our very best, and will prove a pleasure to our customer and a credit to our good name.

AN ASSERTION.
There is no comparison between the knowledge required for mere Technical Photography and the ART EXPERIENCE necessary to suitably arrange, pose, and to light a subject in order to make a good picture.
We number among our staff of Artists Gentlemen of the HIGHEST TALENT. Specialists in each Department, Producers of sound Original Work.
PRICE LIST
of Modern High Art Portraiture. No inferior work; each sitter a careful study.
HIGH ART PORTRAITS.
12 Cabinets (best finish) 10s 6d
12 Paris Panels (best finish) 15s 6d
OUR COROCO PHOTOGRAPHS.
FAR and AWAY the Best Glazed Photograph.
12 Cabinets (best finish) 12s 6d
12 Paris Panels (best finish) 17s 6d
PLATINOTYPES.
None but the Best English Platinotype Paper used.
12 Cabinets (best finish) 15s 6d
12 Paris Panels (best finish) 21s

THE CROWN STUDIOS, 448 GEORGE-ST.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
For some years we were next to Lassetter's, but for 3 years we have been Right Opposite Lassetter's.
448 GEORGE-STREET
(Next to Roberts' Hotel).

THE "EMBLO" PORTRAITS, 448 GEORGE-ST.

MANLY BEACH.
MANLY BEACH.

THE BRIGHTON OF NEW SOUTH WALES, AND THE MOST POPULAR SEASIDE PLEASURE RESORT. HOSTS OF ATTRACTIONS AND AMUSEMENTS, INCLUDING:—SHOOTING THE CHUTES, TOBOGGANING, THE OPEN-AIR COMIC ENTERTAINMENTS ON THE OCEAN BEACH, DONKEY RIDES, MERRY-GO-ROUNDS, MOTOR CAR TRIPS, BATHING, FISHING, and the very Latest Sensation, THE SMALLEST REAL RAILROAD IN THE WORLD. This is a perfect Miniature Railway, running on the Ocean Beach, and is a splendid attraction for the young and old. SALOON STEAMERS LEAVE No. 3 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY, EVERY HALF-HOUR ALL DAY and EVENING. FARE: ADULTS, 4d; CHILDREN, 2d.

N.S.W. CRICKET ASSOCIATION.
VICTORIA v NEW SOUTH WALES
(SECOND TEAMS)
COMMENCES TO-MORROW (Saturday), Dec. 31, at NOON,
UNIVERSITY OVAL.
15 Elizabeth-street. PERCY K. BOWDEN, Secretary.

A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS.
PALING'S XMAS ANNUAL.
THOUSANDS SOLD. SECOND EDITION NOW READY.
CAKEWALKS, SONGS, DANCES, PIANOFORTE SOLOS, INCLUDING KILLARNEY, CREOLE BELLES, HIAWATHA, L'AIGLON, THERE'S ALWAYS A PLACE IN MY HEART FOR YOU, etc., etc.
A WONDERFUL 1s WORTH.
W. H. PALING AND CO., LTD.,
338 GEORGE-STREET, SYDNEY; and at BRISBANE and NEWCASTLE.

POPULAR OCEAN EXCURSIONS.
NEW YEAR'S DAY (MONDAY NEXT).
From Wharf foot of Market-street at 10 a.m. (weather permitting),
S.S. NAMOI, 1414 Tons, to COWAN.
S.S. SYDNEY, 634 Tons, to PORT HACKING.
Excursionists will be landed for about three hours, returning to Sydney about 3 p.m.
Luncheon, 1s 6d.
Refreshments at Moderate Rates.
3s RETURN FARE. 3s
(Children Half-price.)
F. J. THOMAS, Manager.
The N. and H.R. S.S. Co.,
147 Sussex-street.

INTERSTATE JUNIOR CRICKET.—N.S.W. v SOUTH AUSTRALIA, on Sydney Sports Ground, SATURDAY, Dec. 31, and MONDAY, Jan. 2. ADMISSION, 6d each day.

BAND for Picnics, Dances, etc. Musicians all functions. Musicians' Ass., 23 Bowe-st. Tel., 2446.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.—20 stylish Turnouts for Hire, Marrickville Stables, Arthur-st. Tel., 468 Pet.

CORREY'S GARDENS, CABARITA.
NEW YEAR'S DAY.
SPECIAL HOLIDAY ATTRACTIONS.
DANCING. DANCING.
In the Largest and Best Pavilion in the State.
C. BORRELL'S STRING BAND.
Swings, Merry-go-rounds, and other Amusements Free.
Summer-houses and Shady Nooks for Picnic Parties.
Hot and Cold Water, Free.
Saloon Steamers half-hourly from No. 6 Jetty, Circular Quay, from 10 o'clock. No waiting or overcrowding.
NOTE THE CHARGES.—Return Steamer Fare, 6d; Grounds and Pavilion, 3d.
Children accompanied by parents admitted to Grounds Free. Trams from Burwood station at short intervals.
THOS. CORREY, Proprietor.
Tel., 29 Burwood.

FOR THOSE BEAUTIFUL COOL HARBOUR TRIPS, THE RUN TO MANLY BEACH IS THE BEST.
TAKE A TRIP AND ENJOY YOURSELF.
SALOON STEAMERS FROM NO. 3 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, SYDNEY.
On and after JANUARY the 1st, 1905, a charge will be made for Admission to the Gardens on Sundays at the rate of TWOPENCE for Adults, and ONE PENNY for Children.
A. S. LE SOUEF.

KILPATRICK'S DEATH TRAP, Phillip Park, Every Evening. A Sensation of Sensations.

THEATRE ROYAL.
LESSEE ..... Mr. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
SUB-LESSEE ..... BLAND HOLT.
POPULAR PRICES.
2s, 1s, 1s. Early Door Tickets from 7 till 7.30, Sixpence Extra.
On
Account
of the many
and varied
Elements
of Attractiveness,
BLAND HOLT'S
Bright Australian Anecdote,
A DESPERATE GAME!
A DESPERATE GAME!
A DESPERATE GAME!
A DESPERATE GAME!
Admirably
meets the
requirements of
the Amusement-loving Public.
IT IS A DELIGHTFUL HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT.
Interpreted by the
PREMIER DRAMATIC ORGANISATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH.
Illustrated by
Mr. JOHN BRUNTON in a Series of
STRIKINGLY DESCRIPTIVE TABLEAUX.
COCKATOO FARM, HAPPY VALLEY,
ON THE SUMMIT OF "THE DEVIL'S TOOTH."
REALISTIC STORM EFFECTS.
GOLDFIELDS UP FROM PERTH.
WESTRALIAN FRUIT AND FLOWER SHOW.
COMIC CAPERS IN A COUNTRY POLICE COURT.
WORKING WHIM OF A GOLD MINE.
A CHURCH IN BUSHDOM.
BOX PLAN at ELVY'S, George-street. Booking Fee, One Shilling. Early-door Tickets at KLEISDORFF'S and FAVAS', King-street.
Children in arms not admitted.
CHRISTIE SIMONSENS, Business Manager.

A. A.
B.right B.right
C.hristmas. C.hristmas.
The above is our EARNEST WISH towards our CLIENTS and the PUBLIC in general.
WHAT ABOUT NEW YEAR DELICACIES?
Like the Brook we could go on for ever telling you of the hundred-and-one New Year Dainties we have imported and made to meet NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTRY VISITORS.
Two Addresses—NEXT TO AND OPPOSITE THE STRAND.

UNDER VICE-REGAL PATRONAGE.
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GROUNDS, MOORE PARK.
CHINESE VILLAGE
and
GRAND MONSTER CARNIVAL
GREAT WILD WEST SHOW
of 45 Performers and 40 Horses, Cow Boys and Girls, Indians, Rough-riders, etc., etc.
A LEAP FOR LIFE.
THE MOST THRILLING AND SENSATIONAL ACT EVER SEEN IN SYDNEY.
In addition to the above great show, the following additional attractions will be provided absolutely free of charge:—
GRAND CHINESE VILLAGE,
GRAND JAPANESE VILLAGE,
THE BOHEMIAN DRAMATIC COMPANY,
THE ALADDIN PANTOMIME COMPANY,
WINSTON'S VARIETY SHOW,
PROFESSOR MARCONI'S MARIONETTES,
BICYCLE RACES,
PONY RACES,
CHARIOT RACES.
WATCH THIS SPACE FOR SATURDAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.
1s TO ALL PARTS. CHILDREN 6d.

LAST NIGHT BIOSCOPE SHOW,
CENTENARY HALL, TO-NIGHT.

DEATH-DEFYING FEAT.—Looping the Death Trap, Phillip Park.

TIVOLI THEATRE.
Sole Proprietor and Manager.....Mr. Harry Rickards.
Treasurer ..... Mr. Joseph Larkin.
NEXT SPECIAL HOLIDAY MATINEE TO-MORROW.
MARZELLA MATINEE TO-MORROW at 2.30.
A NEW XMAS COMPANY.
A BRILLIANT ARRAY OF THE WORLD'S STARS.
MR. HARRY RICKARDS'
NEW TIVOLI VAUDEVILLE AND SPECIALTY COMBINATION.
Intense Excitement Created by the Marvellous
MADAME MARZELLA
and her Wonderful Performing Tropical Birds.
MAX ROSE'S ELECTRICAL SURPRISES.
Scene 1.—Japanese Encampment. 2.—The Deep Sea. The Shipwreck.
The Lifeboat Rescuing the Feathered Crew. Just Arrived, per R.M.S. Himalaya
THE FERNANDEZ MAY TRIO,
A Novel Musical Entertainment, introducing Paper-tearing Extraordinary.
PROF. DAY'S MARIONETTES,
Introducing the Harlequinade of a Pantomime.
Just the Act for the Holidays. Fathers, Mothers, and Children should see this Great Specialty Act.
MISS FANNY POWERS THE DRISCOLL BOYS
MISS RUBY CRAWFORD Mr. FRED. BLUETT
MISS PEARL LOVELL Mr. JACK HARRISON
THE TWO COLLENS Mr. EDWARD FORD
MISS NITA LEETE Mr. GEORGE BENTLEY.
Reappearance of those Marvellous Russian Dancers,
THE PESCHKOFF CO.
THE SALAMBOS,
Wireless Telegraphy through the Body.
Positively the Last Night in Australia of
MISS NELLIE KILBURN,
Mr. HARRY ATKINSON,
the Australian Orpheus, a Marvellous Mimic.
BOX OFFICE at W. H. Paling and Co.'s, George-street.
PRICES OF ADMISSION: 3s, 2s 6d, 2s, 1s 6d, and 1s.
Business Manager, JOHN C. LEETE.

TOM DONNELLY, Teacher all kinds Stage Dancing. Pupil, Clara Keating (Tiv.). Ballrm., 5 Hunter-st.

PALACE THEATRE.
Lessee ..... Mr. HARRY RICKARDS.
Manager for Mr. Rickards—Mr. Harry Musgrove.
For Mr. James—Mr. S. W. Combe.
Mr. HARRY RICKARDS has much pleasure in presenting, by arrangement with Mr. HARRY JAMES, his GREAT COMPANY OF AMERICAN TRAVESTY STARS, and with regret announces
TO-NIGHT IS THE NIGHT,
THE LAST NIGHT,
Positively, Absolutely, Decisively,
they will appear in Australia.
TO-NIGHT. TO-NIGHT.
LAST NIGHT IN AUSTRALIA.
LAST NIGHT AMONGST YOU.
LAST NIGHT TO LAUGH.
LAST NIGHT AND GOOD-BYE.
LAST NIGHT IN AUSTRALIA.
WHIRL-I-GIG AND POUSSE CAFE.
TO-NIGHT. Under the patronage of
LAST NIGHT. all the Social Clubs and
LAST NIGHT. Jolly Companions of
LAST NIGHT. Sydney.
LAST NIGHT IN AUSTRALIA.
ROLB and DILL LAST NIGHT.
BARNEY BERNARD LAST NIGHT.
LILLIE SUTHERLAND LAST NIGHT.
CELIA MAYO LAST NIGHT.
BEN HASSAN LAST NIGHT.
LAST NIGHT IN AUSTRALIA.
TO-NIGHT, FRIDAY, TO-NIGHT.
ONLY TO-NIGHT, Leaving by
LAST NIGHT. the
In Sonoma
AUSTRALIA. ON MONDAY NEXT.
Plan at Elvy's.

SHAKING DICE WITH DEATH.—Looping the Death Trap, Phillip Park.

CENTENARY HALL, YORK-STREET.
TO-NIGHT, at 8.
GRAND BIOSCOPE ENTERTAINMENT.
POSITIVELY LAST NIGHT.
FILMS, FILMS, FILMS.
The finest Bioscope Show ever given in Sydney.
Assisting Artists,
Miss HELOISE AUSTA and "BUDA PADA."
ADMISSION, SIXPENCE TO ALL PARTS.
Reserved Seats, One Shilling.

HOGMANAY NIGHT!
A GUID NEW YEAR TAE ANE AN' A'.
Attend the BURNS' ANNIVERSARY CLUB CONCERT and DANCE in the Protestant Hall, Castlereagh-street, at 9 p.m., on SATURDAY, November 31st. Come and hear the AULD SCOTCH SANGS. Dancing till 11.30 p.m. Admission, adults 6d, children 3d.
T. SIMPSON, Hon. Secretary.

ROSEBERY PARK RACES.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3rd, 1905.
14.3 Handicap, 25 sovs, 4½ furlongs.
14.1 Handicap, 20 sovs, 4 furlongs.
Maiden Handicap (15.0), 20 sovs, 4 furlongs.
13.2 Handicap, 20 sovs, 4½ furlongs.
14.2 Handicap, 20 sovs, 6½ furlongs.
Rosebery Park Handicap (15.0), 25 sovs, 6½ furlongs.
ENTRIES CLOSE THIS DAY, FRIDAY.
A. F. BATEMAN, Secretary.
Telephone, 2082.
Tattersall's Club-chambers, Pitt-street.

PIGEON SHOOTING
N.S.W. GUN CLUB.
THIS DAY, FRIDAY, 30th DEC.
£50 AND £75 OPEN HANDICAP.
SHOOTING AT 11 A.M.
Admission, 5s. Luncheon (W. H. Stephens) on ground. Members must produce their tickets at gate.
J. E. EMBLEN, Secretary.

MEDLOW BATH
MOTOR TRIPS.
As well as running from the Hydro Medlow Bath to the Jenolan or Fish River Caves, Motor Cars run on SATURDAY from SYDNEY to MEDLOW BATH.
The Cars start from the SYDNEY MOTOR GARAGE, Elizabeth-street, and run through Parramatta, Penrith, Emu Plains, and thence rising 3,500ft. through the beautiful Blue Mountains to Medlow Bath Hydro, 70 MILES OF SCENERY; FARES, £1. Tel., 217
CARS LEAVE AT 1.30 SATURDAY.
Old Visitors to the Mountains should try the road journey at least once. Such a difference from the trains, in seeing to advantage the surrounding views.

BATHING, FISHING, MERRY-GO-ROUNDS, MOTOR CAR TRIPS, DONKEY RIDES, SHOOTING THE CHUTES, TOBOGGANING, ETC.,
AT MANLY BEACH,
The Premier Seaside Resort
for Amusements.

JUST PUBLISHED,
THE EURYALUS WALTZ.
Played by the Band of H.M.S. Euryalus.
Composed by NELLY THOMAS.
Price, 1s 6d.
ELVY AND COMPANY, 329 GEORGE-STREET.

DRAMATIC.—Vacancy two smart Amateurs, lady, gent., established company, tour, small premium. Apply, first instance,
Manxman, Herald.

LAST NIGHT BIOSCOPE SHOW,
CENTENARY HALL, TO-NIGHT.

WEDDING, Invitation, Visiting Cards, Cake Boxes, Cheap Printing. Park and Hoare, Royal Arcade.

PICNIC GROUNDS and Steamer for Hire, Monday, 1st Jan. J. D. Nelson, Pearl Bay. Tel., 140 Mosman.

WANTED, for Dramatic Co., Ladies and Gents, tall lined, amateurs. Amateur, Oxford-st P.O.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.—Drays, Sociables, Buggies, Sulkies for Hire. Marrickville Stables, Arthur-st.

LOOPING THE DEATH TRAP is the most exciting and thrilling performance on earth.

LOST AND FOUND.

HANDSOME Reward.—Lost, gold Bangle, 2 rows diam., supp. and ruby each end. 80 Elizabeth-st.

LOST, Pointer Dog, liver and white, in Mosman, reward. Telephone 330 Mosman.

LOST, bet. Rockdale and Arncliffe, Purse, containing money, ticket, etc., rew. 11 B'k'ghan-st, S. H.

LOST, Tuesday, at Bondi Baths, pair Gold-rimmed Glasses, reward. Sales Clerk, Govt. Prig. Office.

LOST, the Morning Herald, now that I stick to DICKENS' WHISKY.

LOST, G. Diam. Ruby BROOCH, bet. Concord -lat- farm, B'wood. Rew. Woodside, Fitzroy-st, B'wood.

LOST, Camera, Ensign, on Balm'n car, Xmas Day. Substantial reward if ret. Engineer, s. Himalaya.

LOST, a Purse, cont. small sum of money, in Geo.-st, bet. Abercrombie-Geo. sts. 5 Harvey-st, Pyrm.

LOST, bet. Dal. Rin and Queen's Hall, Pearl Turquoise Pendant, chain. Rew. United Ins., Geo.-st.

LOST, Gold Leaf Brooch, between North Sydney and King-st; rew., 10s. Apply R. B. Pitt, N. Sydney.

LOST, Pearl, between Ashfield and Sydney, owner's name on box; reward. 133 Macquarie-st.

LOST, chestnut Horse, bud. N.O.T. off hip, rug and hobbles on; £2 rew. St. Leonards S'yard, N.S.

LOST, Manly, Wed., Gold BROOCH, sapphire, pearls, gilt; reward. 61 Underwood-st, Paddington.

LOST, in Wetherill's, Lacy's BAG, containing money, keys, etc.; reward. 45 London-st, Enmore.

LOST, Pearl PENDANT and Ch., bet. Pad., Ultimo, 'bus, tram; lib. rew. 80 Gordon-st, Paddington.

LOST, Bay Gelding, star on face, brand J/N near shoulder; rew. J. E. Green, Wellington-st, N. Bot.

LOST, small Delivery Book, in George-st; reward. F. C. Janson, 206 George-st.

LOST, lady's Umbrella, off tram, Sun. eve., bet. King and Mkt. sts. Reward. Medical School, University.

LOST, Gold PENCIL, at Randwick Grand Stand, Saturday, 24th inst; reward. Apply
Island Dept., Burns, Philp, and Co.,
Bridge-street, Sydney.

LOST, 3-bar Gold BROOCH, with garnet in centre, Wed. evening, between Market-st and Mark Foy's. Finder rewarded on returning same to 464 George-street.

LOST, Thursday afternoon, bet. Hayberry-st and French's-rd, Willoughby, or in tram, Lady's Gold Watch and Chain and Trinkets. Reward.
104 Hayberry-street, North Sydney.

ONE POUND REWARD.—Lost, 29th Dec., between Randwick and Ocean-street, Silver Cigarette CASE.
W.A.L., Hazelmere, Edgecliff-road.

REWARD.—Lost, Wed. night, bet. Stanmore-Newtown, dble. Cameo Brooch. 66 R'way av., S'more.

REWARD, £1.—Lost, 1 Brown Filly, JD over C, sr. shoulder. Chas. Hillman and Co., Ivy-st, Red.

REWARD, 10s.—Lost, gold Cable Brooch, 2 hearts, 2 set pearls. Beltam, Walter-st, Paddington.

REWARD, £5.—Strayed from Botany Monday last, one Grey HORSE, branded OMK near shoulder; Bay MARE, C near shoulder; Bay HORSE, 7 over 16 near shoulder; Bay HORSE, white hind legs; Bay Pony semi-circle near shoulder. One Pound will be given for each of above horses returned. Any person detaining these horses after this date will be prosecuted.
F. ROGERS,
8 Playfair-street, Miller's Point.

SPECTACLES, Gold, Lost, Wednesday, city; reward. Beattie, Hunter-st.

STRAYED, from last, for Beaf, Bay Gelding, pigeon-toed, brand Y over W. Reward £5.

STRAYED from yd., 2 yng. Deutscher Hounds, per. detaining prosecuted. Joe Gardiner, Oxford-st.

STRAYED from Drummoyne, Sunday, chestnut MARE, about 14 hands, branded TF (conjoined) near shoulder, £1 reward on returning to J. BLAIR, Maxville, Marlborough-st., Drummoyne.

TEN SHILLINGS REWARD.—Lost, between N. Shore and Rydalmere, 26th inst., Gold SPECTACLES. Deep Dene Campbell-street, Milson's Point; or Hugh M'Gill, Hospital, Rydalmere.

IN Marrickville Pound, one Bay HORSE, branded like W near shoulder, with Cattle Dog.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
Sole Lessee and Director .. Mr. GEORGE MUSGROVE
Manager ..... Mr. C. B. Westmacott
THE COOLEST THEATRE IN AUSTRALASIA.
THE SLIDING ROOF OPEN THE WHOLE EVENING.
The SPACIOUS WINTER GARDENS and BALCONY to Pitt-street SPECIALLY FURNISHED and ARRANGED for the CONVENIENCE of PATRONS of the Theatre.
THIS and EVERY EVENING,
at 7.50,
WEDNESDAY MATINEES

AUCTION SALES.

DON'T FORGET THE SALE OF

WARNER ESTATE. WYONG.

2nd and 3rd Subdivisions, right at WYONG STATION, and Fronting WYONG RIVER and TUGGERAH LAKES. AUCTION SALE ON THE GROUND,

NEW YEAR'S DAY, MONDAY NEXT, AT 1.30 P.M.

CHOICE WATER FRONTAGE and FARMING BLOCKS. Areas from ¼ Ac., 1 Ac., 10 Ac., 15 Ac., to 280 Acs. Grand Chance for FISHERMEN, AGRICULTURISTS, and POULTRY FARMERS, EXCELLENT SOIL, PERMANENT WATER.

Title Torrens. Liberal Terms. Plans on application.

HUGH DUFF AND CO., AUCTIONEERS, 283 GEORGE-ST., or ALBERT H. WARNER, 64 PITT-ST.

P.S.—PURCHASERS' TRAIN FARES Refunded. Luncheon Provided.

THIS DAY,
FRIDAY, 30th DECEMBER, 1904,
AT 11 O'CLOCK.
FOR UNRESERVED SALE BY AUCTION,
on the Premises,
580 GEORGE-STREET.
Under instructions from
Messrs. STARKEY and STARKEY,
Accountants in the Assigned Estate of C. J. ABIGAIL,
THE WHOLE OF THE STOCK AND TRADE of
LEATHER AND GRINDERY,

SIDES, SOLE LEATHER, UPPERS, ELASTIC JACKS, EYELETS, BRASS and WOOD PEGS, BLACKING, BOOT POLISH, etc., etc.
AVERY'S SCALES and WEIGHTS.
SINGER SEWING MACHINE.
BLOCKING and EYELETTING MACHINE.
BOOTMAKERS' TOOLS.
DOUBLE DOOR SAFE, PHILLIPS and SON,
FIXTURES and FITTINGS,
etc. etc.

S. H. HARRIS AND COMPANY have been instructed by Messrs. STARKEY and STARKEY to sell as above, ABSOLUTELY WITHOUT RESERVE, on the PREMISES, 580 GEORGE-STREET, THIS DAY, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30th, at 11 O'CLOCK.

THE SALE OF THE SEASON.
THIS DAY, FRIDAY, AT ELEVEN A.M.
"MOYNE HALL," SUMMER HILL,
Gower-street, near Liverpool-road, near station,
By order of Mrs. J. F. TRUSCOTT.

THE UNEXCEPTIONARLY ELEGANT AND VERY VALUABLE MODERN ART FURNISHINGS and Appointments of the Residence of Eight Large Rooms and ample Offices, all in most delightful order and best quality.
The DINING-ROOM FURNITURE is in best solid Walnut and up-to-date design. Grand Suite in Morocco, 4ft Sideboard with Glass Cupboards, Superb Table, Dessert Services, etc.
The DOUBLE DRAWING-ROOM is also artistically appointed, and private buyers and dealers in high grade Furniture will do well, as every lot is UNRESERVED.
The Auctioneers may be permitted to draw special attention to Mrs. TRUSCOTT'S MAGNIFICENT PIANOFORTE, one of the finest instruments ever sent to this State by the famous
STEINWEG NAGEL PIANO COMPANY.
The Two CARPET SQUARES in Double Drawing-room are of finest Royal Axminster and in perfect preservation.
THE DRAWING-ROOM APPOINTMENTS are in best SOLID WALNUT, ROSEWOOD, etc.
VALUABLE GUIPURE LACE and APPLIQUE CURTAINS.
SPLENDID SOLID WALNUT DOUBLE BEDROOM SUITE, and contents 3 BEDROOMS, SEWING-ROOM, Mr. TRUSCOTT'S OFFICE, etc, including ROOM, Mr. TRUSCOTT'S OFFICE, etc, including A SPLENDID NEW WHITE MACHINE, LANCASTER CAMERA, SURVEYOR'S BOOKS, DRAUGHTSMAN TABLE, TWO THEODOLITES, and all the SURVEY INSTRUMENTS.
SPLENDID ANGUS BICYCLE, cost £25, and only used a few times by Mrs. Truscott.
ALSO, A GENT.'S BICYCLE.
SPLENDID MINORCA and other POULTRY, GARDEN SEAT, MOWER, contents of the Fernery, and other choice Lots as per DESCRIPTIVE BOOK CATALOGUES, now ready and obtainable at the residence.
N.B.—The Surveyor's Outfit Instruments will be sold at 2 p.m.

MESSRS. STRONGMAN AND WATSON, FURNITURE and GENERAL AUCTIONEERS.
Telephone, 200 Burwood.

SURVEYOR'S TEAM, FOUR GRAND GELDINGS, Hard Fed, Sound, Stanch, accus. S. and D. Harness, and Saddle.
SPLENDID WAGGON, FOUR-IN-HAND HARNESS, Two Saddles, several splendid Tents and Flys, various sizes, Camping Outfit complete, and for Sale solely owing to the recent lamented death of the late Mr. J. F. TRUSCOTT, GOV. SURVEYOR.
FOR AUCTION SALE, P.M. THIS DAY,
at MOYNE HALL, GOWER-ST., SUMMER HILL,
By Order of Mrs. J. F. TRUSCOTT.
MESSRS. STRONGMAN AND WATSON, Auctioneers and Agents for Mrs. Truscott.
Telephone, 200 Burwood.

20 SPECULATORS, SOLICITORS, ACCOUNTANTS, STOREKEEPERS, and OTHERS.
THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING, at 11.
On the Premises,
ANGEL-PLACE, 127 PITT-STREET,
near G.P.O., City.
In the Assigned Estate
T. E. BRAY and COMPANY.
OFFICE FURNITURE, COUNTERS, FITTINGS, PACKING CASES, FANCY GOODS, etc.,
including—
An almost new Remington Typewriter, in perfect order
Rotary Neostyle Type Duplicator
Cutler Rolltop Desk, 5 feet
Rockwell and Rutsel Account Card Index
Letterpress, Showcase, Office Cabinet
Circular Counter, Book-press, Truck
Paring-back Office Chairs, Typewriter's Chair
Typewriter, Set Shelves, Circular Counter
10 large Cane Travellers' Baskets
Electric Lighting Plant throughout
Turner Iron Safe, 22 x 22 x 34
Cedar Office Table, Leather Top, 5 drawers, 5 x 3.6.
Also the balance of stock-in-trade not cleared, including—
Fine Confectionery, Fancy Boxes
12 doz. ditto, cases
24 doz. Children's Strong Buckets
36 Boxes Snow
6 doz. large Dolls
20 doz. large Plaques
12 doz. Toy Engines
3 doz. Toy Bedsteads
6 doz. Block Games
2 doz. Leather Cases
9 gross Collar Studs
4 doz. assorted Frames (Photos.),
and a general lot of Tools, Locks, Trays, and useful sundries; also, about 70 large Packing-cases.

E. HERDEN BRODRIBB
under imperative instructions from the Trustees to the above Estate, will clear the whole out, as above, owing to giving up possession of premises on first inst.
ABSOLUTELY NO RESERVE.
THIS (Friday) AFTERNOON, at 2.30 sharp.
IMPERATIVE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION,
On Premises, 382 BOURKE-STREET, near Albion-street, Surry Hills.
FURNITURE and EFFECTS of 2-STORY HOUSE.
NO RESERVE. TERMS, CASH.
PREMISES TO LET.

E. HERDEN BRODRIBB, AUCTIONEER.
TO COUNTRY BUYERS AND PARTIES FURNISHING.
THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON, at 2.30 o'clock,
AT THE SALEROOMS, 115 BATHURST-STREET.
GENERAL HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and EFFECTS, comprising—
Chiffonier, Crockeryware, Electroplate, Pictures Linoleum, B. Carpets, Lace Curtains, Dining Tables Leather D.R. suite of 9 pieces, Sideboards, Tab. and Plush Dr. R. Suites, Ornaments, Pictures, Occas. Tables
Bedroom Suites, B.M. Bedsteads, 4ft 6in. 3ft 6in. and 2ft 6in., complete turnouts, Wardrobes, Cedar Cheval Glasses, Toilet Ware, M.T. Washstands, S. Machine, Glass D. Dresser, etc.
Laundry and Kitchen Requisites, etc.

VINCENT H. KELSON AUCTIONEER,
has received instructions from the various vendors to sell as above.
ON THE PREMISES, No. 248 GEORGE STREET, 3 DOORS SOUTH OF BRIDGE-STREET.
To Bootmakers, Furniture Dealers, Private Buyers, and those in search of First-class Glass Cases, Counters, and Fittings.
HYAM HAINS has received instructions from Messrs. M. COOK and SONS, on account of expiration of lease after being 50 years on the premises, as above, to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION THIS DAY,
FRIDAY, the 30th INST., at 11 A.M.,
the whole of their Stock-in-Trade of First-class BOOTS AND SHOES,
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, GLASS CASES, FITTINGS, ETC.
200 PAIRS LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S BOOTS and SHOES.
LARGE MIRRORS, Superior Glass Cases, Counters, 12 CHESTS DRAWERS, SEATS, OFFICE FURNITURE, IRON SAFE, Linoleum, Brass Fittings.
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and EFFECTS, Carpenter's Bench.
Quantity of Miscellaneous Articles, Timber, etc.
NO RESERVE. TERMS CASH.
On the Premises, No. 248 GEORGE-STREET, near Bridge-street.
THIS DAY, FRIDAY, at 11 a.m. SHARP.
Every line submitted must be sold, and cleared before the 31st DECEMBER, 1904.
HYAM HAINS, Licensed Auctioneer and Valuator, 243 Pitt-street. Tel., 2547.

TO GROCERS, PROVISION MERCHANTS, Etc.
At the SALEROOMS, 7 WYNYARD-STREET,
THIS DAY, FRIDAY, at 11 o'clock.
By order of the Vendors.
ABSOLUTELY UNRESERVED and CLEARING SALE.
To Close Accounts for the Year.
GENERAL GROCERIES and PROVISION GOODS.
Jams, Jellies, Flour, Starch, Sago, Sauces, etc.
Sugar, Spices, G. M. Milk, Dates, Force Food, etc.
Salmon, Sardines, Herrings, Pickles, Teas, Coffees, Essences, Rice, Currys, Currants, Raisins, Figs.
Confectionery, Tanglefoot, Biscuits, Sauces, Soaps, Candles, Vestas, Treacles, Syrups, etc.

M. GOULSTON AND CO., AUCTIONEERS, etc.

THIS DAY, December 30th, at 11 a.m.,
On the Premises, Avenue-road,
Mosman.
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and EFFECTS.

A. G. JENKINS has received imperative instructions to sell, as above, THIS MORNING,

UNRESERVED SALE BY AUCTION.

THIS DAY, FRIDAY,
30th DECEMBER, AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK A.M.,
AT THE AUCTION SALE ROOMS
of
JAS. R. LAWSON AND LITTLE,
128-130 PITT-STREET, NEAR KING-STREET.
HIGHLY SUPERIOR FURNITURE
and
GENERAL HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS.
SEVERAL VALUABLE PIANOFORTES,
BY THE FIRST MAKERS.
Including
A SUPERB UPRIGHT MODEL,
by
STEINWAY and SONS.
HANNAM'S PATENT BATH-HEATER.
TWO LARGE-SIZED PALMS.
Also,
THE FURNISHINGS OF A SHORTHAND
and
TYPEWRITING SCHOOL,
including Six Typewriters, Eleven Typing Tables, Three Large Tables, 8 x 4, Office Table, Revolving Office Chairs, Quantity Chairs, Best Quality Linoleum, etc., etc.
And,
BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES
In the Estate of
MESSRS. LLEWELLIN AND CO.,
JEWELLERS' SHOP FITTINGS,
Including Glass Show Cases, Counter, Tables, Chairs, Shelving and Partitions, Letter Copying Press, Cedar Cupboards and Presses, etc., etc.

JAMES R. LAWSON AND LITTLE,
AUCTIONEERS,
will conduct the Important Sale by Auction, at the Rooms, 128-130 Pitt-street, as above,
THIS DAY.

JOHN P. LISTER will sell by auction at his Rooms, 247A Pitt-street, the UNREDEEMED SUNDRIES and JEWELLERY pledged with Messrs. GRACE BROS., of the Paddington Mont de Piete, Oxford-street, Paddington, at 11 o'clock: Sundries of every description. At 2 o'clock: Jewellery, consisting of Gold and Silver Watches, Gold Alberts, Chains, Necklets, Lockets, Pins, Lockets, Brooches, Earrings, Signet and Fancy Rings, etc.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—HOTEL and RESTAURANT PROPRIETORS and CATERERS.
ROMA FINE UNRESERVED SALE.
THE ELITE DINING ROOMS, Victoria Markets.
THURSDAY NEXT, at 11 a.m.
Including the whole of the Magnificent Fittings and Furnishings, Plant, etc, as placed there regardless of expense by the late QUONG TART, including SUPERB SCHWECHTEN PIANOFORTE, Engravings, Pictures, (Partics. to-morrow's Herald.)
MITCHELL and CRANSTON will sell.

Important and Unreserved SALE of Very Superior HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and EFFECTS, TOMORROW, Saturday, at Ruthven-street, Waverley, Drawing-room SUITE, Octagon Tables, Overmantels, Brussels Carpets, Linoleums, Brass-mounted Bedsteads, Bed Linen, Marble-top Washstands, Wardrobes, Duchess Toilets, Combinations, Chests Drawers, etc, etc.
MITCHELL and CRANSTON will sell.

THIS DAY, Friday, at half-past 10 o'clock,
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and EFFECTS.
Bedsteads, Wire Mattresses, Bedding, Washstands and Ware, Dining, Kit., and Toilet Tables, 30 Chairs, Safe, Crockery, Fountain, Cooking Utensils, etc.
H. LEVY has received instructions from Miss Riedy to sell by auction, at 135 Abercrombie-street, Redfern.
TOTALLY UNRESERVED.
THIS DAY AT 2.30.
MIDDLETON and CO. sell by Auction, at No. 170 George-street West, Violin in case, Medical Battery, Hand-plough; also large quantity really good Soft Clothing, Dresses, Blouses, Coats, Trousers, etc. No reserve.
E. ATKINS will sell by auction, TO-DAY, at One o'clock, at Eulalia Nursery, Moore-street, Sydney, Elk and Staghorn Ferns, Norfolk Island Ferns, Palms, Orchids, and Pickling Onions; Poultry, Pigeons, and a choice collection of English and Australian Finches, Parrots, etc., etc.
In the Supreme Court of New South Wales,
Sheriff's Office, Sydney,
29th Decr., 1904.
E. RESCH v WRIGHT, O.
ON WEDNESDAY, the 4th day of January, 1905, at noon, unless the Writ of Fieri Facias herein be previously satisfied, the Sheriff will cause to be sold by public auction at the Central Hotel, corner of York and Druitt streets,
The Furniture and Effects of a Hotelkeeper, etc.
TERMS, CASH.
C. E. B. MAYBURY,
Sheriff.
BRADLEY and SON, Plaintiff's Attorneys, Sydney.
INGLIS'S BAZAAR, THIS DAY.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON will sell by auction, at their BAZAAR, THIS DAY, at 10.30 sharp,
Vans, Springcarts, Horses, and Harness, Draught Horses, Tipcarts, Horses, and Harness. And at 11 a.m., Horses and Vehicles of every description, specially advertised. T., 1351.
6 PEDIGREE CATTLE PUPS.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 10.30 a.m.,
6 Pedigree Cattle Pups, 4 months old, silent workers.
NEW SULKY.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11 a.m., New Sulky, on three springs, suit a pony 13 hds.
4 HIGH-CLASS VEHICLES.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11 a.m., Double-seated Buggy, Bentwhaft Sulky (by Vice), Gem Pony Phaeton, also Sulky with pole and shafts.
HOODED SULKY.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions from Mr. T. R. Smith to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11 a.m.,
Hooded Sulky, in good order.
3 TURNOUTS AND HARNESS.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11 a.m., Horse, Boxcart, and Harness, 2 Sulky Turnouts, also Sundry Harness.
NEW HOODED BUGGY, WITH RUBBER TYRES.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11 a.m., New Hooded Piano-box Buggy, made in America, with solid rubber tyres; a splendid vehicle.
14 FRESH COUNTRY HORSES AND PONIES FROM THE HUNTER.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions from Mr. J. ENRIGHT to Sell by Auction, THIS DAY, FRIDAY, at 11.30 a.m.,
14 FRESH HORSES, comprising 1 Pair of Chestnut Ponies, 12.1, 3 and 4 yrs., quiet in S. and D. Harness; 1 Handsome Brown PONY, and 1 Grey PONY, both 4 yrs., broken to harness; 3 Outstanding HARNESS HORSES, suitable for Cab work; the balance Strong Useful Horses, all broken to harness.
THOROUGHBRED PONY, FROM KURRAGONG.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions from Mr. T. W. McMahon to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11.30 a.m.,
Bay Pony, 14.2, by Poet, dam by Marvellous, perfect and reliable in single and double harness.
ACTIVE VAN HORSE, FROM CAMPBELLTOWN.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions from Mr. A. Anderson to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11.30 a.m.,
Brown Active Van Gelding, 6 yrs., broken to all kinds of harness. To be sold without reserve.
SADDLE AND HARNESS MARE.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions from Dr. Pockley to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11.30 a.m.,
Dark Bay Mare, broken to Saddle and Harness, quiet and reliable.
HARNESS HORSE AND PONY.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions from Mr. J. Fairburn to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11.30 a.m.,
Bay Gelding and Brown Pony Gelding, 14 hands, both thoroughly broken to harness. Trials given.
HARNESS MARE.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON have received instructions from Mr. Benvoil to sell by auction, THIS DAY, at 11.30 a.m.,
Dark Brown Mare, broken to harness, suit a sulky or buggy.

R. F. MURPHY AND CO. will sell by Auction at
THEIR SALE ROOM AND YARDS,
Thomas-street, Haymarket,
THIS DAY, at 1.30 p.m.,
Sucking Pigs, Poultry, Eggs, Honey, etc.

ELLIS and CO. will sell by auction, at their Yards, 9 Quay-street, THIS DAY, at 1 sharp, Fat Vealers, Porkers, Baconers, Store Pigs, Suckers, Carcase Pork and Veal, Roll and Keg Butter, Eggs, Honey, Lard, Fruit, Poultry of every description, Pigeons, Birds, 20cwt Prime Farm-fed Bacon, 25cwt Pure Extracted Honey.

C. TURNER will sell, at his Rooms, the Poultry Farmers' Exchange, Valentine-street, Haymarket, at 1.30 THIS DAY,
Poultry, Eggs, Suckers, etc.

EDUCATIONAL.

ASCHAM,
DARLING POINT.
School Reopens Wednesday, Feb. 1. New Pupils enrolled and Boarders return Jan. 31, at 10 a.m.
A SCHOOL AND HOME FOR YOUR BOY.
CAMPBELLTOWN CAMDEN GRAMMAR SCHOOL and COMMERCIAL COLLEGE (Camden Line).
THE SANATORIUM OF THE SOUTH (200 acres).
Head Master H. Oliver (Prizeman, late Frin. Bus. Col.).
INDIVIDUAL TUITION, Typewriting, Shorthand, etc.
PERSONAL ATTENTION. HIGH MORAL TRAINING.
PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR BUSINESS LIFE.
LAB wants 1 Less. wk., at night, in Latin, Wav. or Rand. dist. pref. Beginner, Oxford-st P.O.
PIANO TEACHER wanted for boy. Apply by letter, state terms, Piano, Crown-st P.O., Surry Hills.
SCHOOL for Sale, established 6 years, day boys and boarders, good house and grounds, low price for goodwill and school, furniture. Apply
Miss GARDINER, 110 Bathurst-street.

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Probate Jurisdiction.—In the Will of DENIS O'LEARY, late of the Hospice, Darlinghurst, Spinster, in the State of New South Wales, Miner, deceased.—NOTICE is hereby given that the Accounts and Plan of Distribution in the above Estate have this day been filed in my office, Chancery-square, Sydney, and all persons having any claim on the said Estate, or being otherwise interested therein, are hereby required to come in before me at my said office on or before the 8th day of March, at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon, and inspect the same, and if they shall think fit object thereto; otherwise if the said Accounts be not objected to the same will be examined by me and passed according to law. Dated this 29th day of December, in the year one thousand nine hundred and four. T. W. GARRETT (L.S.), Registrar.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Probate Jurisdiction.—In the Will of TIMOTHY CORMACK, late of 249 Palmer-street, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales, Freeholder, deceased.—Notice is hereby given that the Accounts in the above Estate have this day been filed in my office, Chancery-square, King-street, Sydney, and all persons having any claim on the said Estate, or being otherwise interested therein, are hereby required to come in before me, at my said office, on or before the seventh day of March, at eleven thirty o'clock in the forenoon, and inspect the same, and if they shall think fit, object thereto; otherwise, if the said accounts be not objected to, the same will be examined by me and passed according to law. Dated this twenty-ninth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and four. T. W. GARRETT (L.S.), Registrar. HUGHES and HUGHES, 26 Hunter-street, Sydney. Proctors for the Permanent Trustee Company of New South Wales, Limited, 17 O'Connell-street, Sydney.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Probate Jurisdiction.—In the Will of ELIZABETH McPHERSON, late of Grafton, in the State of New South Wales, Spinster, deceased.—NOTICE is hereby given that the Second Accounts in the above Estate have this day been filed in my office, Queen's-square, King-street, Sydney, and all persons having any claim on the said Estate, or being otherwise interested therein, are hereby required to come in before me at my said office, on or before the 7th day of March, 1905, at 12 o'clock noon, and inspect the same, and if they shall think fit object thereto; otherwise if the said accounts be not objected to the same will be examined by me and passed according to law. Dated this 29th day of December, in the year 1904. T. W. GARRETT, Registrar. MARK MITCHELL, Proctor for Executors, Moore-street, Sydney.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Probate Jurisdiction.—In the Estate of JARVIS HOULT, late of Wiston, Scarlew-street, Dulwich Hill, formerly of Fremantle, Western Australia, Gentleman, deceased, intestate.—Application will be made after fourteen days from the publication hereof that Administration of the Estate of the aforenamed deceased, with power of sale, may be granted to BRIDGET HOULT, the Widow of the said deceased. And application will also be made to dispense with the usual Administration Bond. And all persons having any claim against the Estate of the aforenamed deceased are required to forward particulars thereof to the undersigned within fourteen days. And all notices may be served at the office of the undersigned. JAMES INGRAM BURFITT, Proctor for the Administratrix, 213 Pitt-street, Sydney.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Probate Jurisdiction.—In the Will of JOHN RANNIE, late of Taviuni, in the Colony of Fiji, Planter, deceased.—Application will be made after fourteen days from the publication hereof that the Probate granted to JOSEPH HECTOR GARRICK, of Suva, in the Colony of Fiji, Solicitor, the Executor named in and appointed by the said Will, in respect of the Estate of the above-named deceased, may be sealed with the seal of this Court; and all notices may be served at the offices of the undersigned. WILLIAM ARNOTT, Proctor of the Applicant, 94 Pitt-street, Sydney.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Probate Jurisdiction.—In the Estate of WILLIAM BEST, late of 43 Rose-street, Darlington, in the State of New South Wales, deceased, intestate.—Application will be made after fourteen days from the publication hereof that Administration of the Estate of the above-named deceased may be granted to WALTER BEST, the only child of the said deceased, and all notices may be served at 43 Rose-street, Darlington.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY.
NOTICE.
NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY.
MONDAY, the 2nd January, being a Public Holiday, the office of this Society will be closed. Annuitants may, however, receive their Cheques by calling at the Head Office on SATURDAY, the 31st inst.
By order of the Board.
ROBERT B. CAMERON,
Head Office: 87 Pitt-street, Secretary.
Sydney, 29th December, 1904.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
TROUT-FISHING IN N.S.W.
TO ANGLERS FOR TROUT.
EASTWAY BROTHERS, 411 George-street, Sydney, are now replete with all the
MOST MODERN AND UP-TO-DATE TACKLE.
In RODS we have a splendid assortment, from Split Cane with Steel Centres to Cheap Ash Rods.
We have Rods at all prices, and can suit every angler.
We stock all FLIES, both eyed and on gut.
GUT CASTS in drawn and undrawn gut.
We have all SPINNING BAITS.
We have a large stock of HALCYONS.
FLY BOOKS and LANDING NETS in great variety.
WATERPROOF PLAITED SILK LINES by all the Best English Makers.
Small Turndown-eyed Hooks for mounting flies.
Fly Vices, Tweezers, and all the Tools for mounting flies.
Peacock Tail Feathers for mounting into spinners.
We invite all Anglers to inspect our stock.
If you cannot call send for lists, and we will mail them to you by return post.

THE NORTH SYDNEY LAND, BUILDING, AND INVESTMENT COMPANY, in Liquidation.
NOTICE is hereby given, in pursuance of section 141 of the Companies Act, 1899, that a General MEETING of Members of the aforesaid Company will be held at 78 Walker-street, North Sydney, on TUESDAY, the 31st day of January, 1905, at 8 o'clock in the evening, for the purpose of having an account laid before them showing the manner in which the winding-up has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Liquidators, and also of determining by extraordinary resolution the manner in which the books, accounts, and documents of the company and of the liquidators thereof shall be disposed of.
Dated the twenty-first day of December, 1904.
JOHN W. EATON
C. F. GARVAN
D. W. SOLOMONS } Liquidators.

SEA CARRIAGE OF GOODS.
PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S RED BILL OF LADING.
The attention of Intending Shippers is invited to the advantages offered by the 2nd O. & S. N. Co.'s RED BILL OF LADING, in which is embodied a Policy of Insurance.
Full particulars may be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

IN THE ESTATE OF JOHN RANNIE, LATE OF TAVIUNI, in the Colony of Fiji, Planter, deceased.
All persons having any claims against the said Estate are requested to send particulars thereof to the undersigned within fourteen days from publication hereof.
WILLIAM ARNOTT,
Solicitor for the Executor of the deceased's Will,
94 Pitt-street, Sydney.

IN THE ASSIGNED ESTATE OF SAMUEL THOMPSON, Storekeeper, Helensburgh.
A FIRST DIVIDEND at the rate of Fourteen Shillings (14/) in the £ in the above Estate is now payable at my office.
Promissory Notes must be produced.
ALBERT BORCHARD, F.S.I.A.,
Incorporated Accountant,
Equitable Buildings, George-street,
Sydney, 29th December, 1904.

SYDNEY NIGHT REFUGE AND REFORMATORY, No. 2 Francis-street.
We have to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the sum of five hundred pounds sterling from Messrs. J. J. Fletcher and H. M. Makinson, Executors of Sir Wm. Macleay, deceased, as a donation to the above institution.
JOHN KIDD, Hon. Treasurer,
JAS. M'LAUGHLIN, Hon. Sec.

SYDNEY NIGHT REFUGE AND REFORMATORY, No. 2 Francis-street.
We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of two hundred packages of "Pyrmo" American Self-raising Flour from the Force Food Company, by favour of his Worship the Lord Mayor, S. E. Lees, Esq.
JOHN KIDD, Hon. Treasurer,
JAS. M'LAUGHLIN, Hon. Sec.

SAMARITAN gratefully acknowledges, on behalf of the sick and afflicted, the sum of £5 2s, proceeds of Entertainment given by Misses FEAR and BRONSDEN at St. James' Hall.

PUBLIC CAUTION.
The Public are cautioned to pay particular attention to the CHOCOLATES sold to them as CADBURY'S, inasmuch as for the sake of extra profit certain shopkeepers are selling inferior goods, falsely representing them to be Cadbury's Chocolates.
MOUNT ST. MARGARET, RYDE.—I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of CHEQUE value £55, from Messrs. J. J. Fletcher and H. M. Makinson, Executors of the late Sir WILLIAM MACLEAY, as a Donation to the above Institution,
29th Dec., 1904. T. J. DALTON, Hon. Treasurer.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
A sure way of obtaining CADBURY BROS.' CHOCOLATES, pure and unadulterated, is by doing business at any of BASS and COY.'S Confectionery Shops. The central city depot of Messrs. BASS and CO. is situate on King-st., cor. of Sydney Arcade, 101 Kg.-st.

A NICE CUP OF TEA.
TRY GOLDENIA.
Just Perfect!

NICHOLLS' DANDELION ALE,
THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

OERTEL'S genuine Fruit Juice Syrups, Raspberry and Pineapple. Tel., 393 Newtown.

IF Contractor does not com. and fin. Contract, Hurstville, 24 hrs., will finish. Rr fin. A. Beamwell.

TEN young Mexican Green Parrots, just starting to talk, for Sale, cheap, at 45 Victoria Markets.

HIRED, Dec. 24, Sulky Turnout; horse home, if sulky and har. not deliv. by 30th pro. taken. W. Flegg.

FLORISTS.

FERN-BALLS, Palms, Ferns, Elk and Staghorns, Shrubs, Ornamental Trees, Orchids, Decorative Plants, Norfolk Island Ferns, Palms, and Pickling Onions (best in world), at Eulalia Nursery, Moore-st.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LEONORA LEIGH, Clairvoyante, removed to 150 Bay-st, opp. Grace Brothers, 11 till 9.

MADAME JOSEPHINE, late Elizabeth-st, Clairvoyant, 84 Glebe-rd, opp. Frances-st.

SPIRITUALISM.—Mr. and Mrs. SULLIVAN, daily. Seances nightly (Sat. exc.) 279 Pitt-st (side ent.).

SPIRITUALISM.—Mr. Stephenson, Seance, 8; daily, 11 to 4. 624 Harris-st, opp Technical Coll.

MADAM CORE, Palmist, 72 Stanley-st, late of Riley-st.—Last few days, leaving for India.

GORDON FOSTER, Clairvoyant, resumes prac. to-day, 10.30 a.m. till 8 p.m. 232 Bowling-st (off Wm.-st).

PAUL FERRIS may be consulted, 15a Liverpool-st, between College and Oxford sts. 11 till 9.

WANTED, by fond mother, Baby to Care or Adopt, small prem. req. Apply Linda, P.O., Auburn.

WANTED, kind Person to Care for little Girl, 12 years old. G. L. Taylor, 27 Carlisle-st, L'hardt.

BUSINESSES FOR SALE OR WANTED

WARDEN, Hoffnung's-chambers, 165 Pitt-st, next to G.P.O.

WARDEN, 183 Pitt-st.—Free Hotel, only one in the sub., rent £2, price £700. Advance arranged.

WARDEN, 183 Pitt-st, city.—In splendid order, tak. over £50 week, lease 10, rent £4, £650.

WARDEN, 183 Pitt-st.—Hotel, railway suburb, rent £4; pays £130 month, lease 10; £660.

NEEDHAM and CO., 31 Eliz.-st.—Board.-h., N. 8rd., 11 rms., nicely furnished, £65.

BOARD. Estab., best position Darlinghurst, 19 rms., all well furn. throughout, full perm. boarders, 14 yrs. same hands, £225. Needham and Co.

LODGING House, Church Hill, 8 rms., full house, £35. Needham and Co.

HAM, Beef, Confect., etc., dble. shop, 6 rms., l.c. trade, mirrors, etc., £88. Needham and Co.

GROCERY and Gen. Store, fine corner pos., good trade, ice chest, etc., £90. Needham and Co.

NEEDHAM and CO., 31 Eliz.-st.—Dairy, 3 rms., sheds, 5 ac., 12 cows, 2 horses, cart, van, £200.

P. V. RYAN and CO., Agents, 8 and 9 P.O.-chambs., 114A Pitt-st, Sydney, opp. G.P.O. Tel. 3026.

P. V. RYAN.—Hotel, central city position, tak. £65 weekly, 8 y. lease, rent all let off, free, £650.

P. V. RYAN.—Hotel, near Grace Bros., rent 45s. bar £20 wk., suit young couple, £150. 114A Pitt-st.

P. V. RYAN.—Hotel, at sub. station, 6 x 27 col. wkly., in 1st-class order thr., £200. 114A Pitt-st.

P. V. RYAN.—Hotel, prominent corner, Glebe, bar £40 wk., 6 x 36, smart man can imp., £400.

P. V. RYAN.—Hotel, busy suburb, £80 wk., billiards, elite trade, 7 x 54'a rod., £1050. 114A Pitt-st

P. V. RYAN.—Hotel, 40 miles out, rent £1, £15 wkly., free, £200; Hotel, South, £30 w., £450.

HOTEL, Tooth's, rent 30s, any lease, draws 20-36 month, barg., £240, Joseph and Co., 106 King-st.

HOTEL, cor. pos., 7-3d Tooth's, weekly, money-making house, £300, Joseph and Co., 106 King-st.

HOTEL, city, same hands 50 yrs., rent £5, l. 7 yrs., £250, Joseph and Co., 106 King-st.

HOTEL, prom. cor., lease 10 yrs., free house, 7-27 weekly, full price, £370, Joseph, 106 King-st.

HOTEL, tram junc., Tooth's, l. profitable trade, heavy traffic, £ 50, Joseph, and Co., 106 King-st.

BOARD-HOUSE, best pos. Darlinghurst, 21 rms., rent 70s, nicely furn., scrupulously clean, same hands 5 yrs., always full boarders, exceptional bargain, £220. Joseph and Co., 106 King-st.

BOARD-HOUSE, 14 tram sec., 14 rms., rent 35s, neatly furn., piano, gift, £80. Joseph and Co.

FRUIT, Confect., Greengrocery, Oxf.-st., tkgs. £25 wkly., 15d, rent 25s., £50. Joseph and Co.

JOSEPH and CO., Bus. Agts., est. 1886, largest accepted Business and Board-House, 106 King-st.

IVAN HENRY offers magnificent city HOTEL, doing the leading business in Sydney. The house has been recently refurnished and renovated throughout, and is now up to date in every respect. Lease 17 years, moderate rental. Takings £400 weekly. Price, £3000, terms if necessary. 134 Pitt-street.

BOARDING-HOUSE, Darlinghurst, contg. 9 rms., always full, well fur., piano, £150. 134 Pitt-st.

BAKERY, Northern Rivers, doing 14 bags week, shop trade £15 wk., £300. Henry, auctr., 134 Pitt-st.

NEWS AGENCY and Stationery, West. subs., 6/10 takings, shop trade £15 wk., £600. 134 Pitt-st.

AERATED Water and Cordial Factory, same hands 40 yrs., lease £2000 p.a., £700. 134 Pitt-st.

BUTCHERY, corner 5 sts., tram sec., trade 20 bod., 200 sheep, and sund., £800. Henry, 134 Pitt-st.

GEO. THOMAS, 58 Elizabeth-st.—Boarding House, 9 rooms, well furn., quite full, £65.

LODGING House, 12 rms., nicely furn., clean, full per. lodgers, £55. Thomas, 58 Elizabeth-st.

GROCERIES, ETC. BARGAIN.
GEO. THOMAS, 58 Elizabeth-st.

NEUSTADT and CO., 71 Eliz.-st.—Wine Shop and Ref. Rooms, splen. stand west. sub, low r., £175.

GENERAL Store, Surry Hills, good position, low rent, £35, no reas. off. ref. Neustadt, 71 Eliz.-st.

DINING Rooms and Coml. Bus., best posit. Oxford-st, low rent, £80. Neustadt, 71 Elizabeth-st.

GROCERY and Mixed Bus., good locality, sound trade, low rent, £50, sac. Neustadt, 71 Eliz.-st.

CADDEN and GORMLEY, City Bank-chambers, 164 Pitt-street, opp. Hodgen Bros.

COUNTRY HOTEL, 50 miles out, well furnished, billiards, tkgs. £20 wk., rent £3, bargain, £200.

HOTEL, gweg city trade, 2 fine bars, takings £70 week, 7 x 36's Tooth's beer, full price £650.

HOTEL, sub., 8 x 36 Tooth's week, rent £4, £150.

HOTEL, Redfern, £35 weekly, big traffic, £300.

HOTEL, very best Sydney, takings £100 week, all over bar, clears £750 yr., gen. proof, £1000.

THE old-established Boarding-house known as Sunnyside, 311 C

ON THE LAND.

FARM AND STATION.

THE FERTILISERS ADULTERATION ACT.

It is some satisfaction to producers to know that the Parliament of New South Wales has at last recognised that in respect to protecting the farmer against the rapacious class of manure merchants who sell sand and rubbish in bags and call the mixture fertilisers this State has been years behind every other civilised country. Country members, as reported in "Hansard," were surprisingly vehement in condemnation of the injustice the producers have suffered, and in urging the necessity for proper legislation. Farmers have been systematically defrauded by false fertilisers during many years, and the necessity for a law to protect them has been growing all the time. A proper bill was long since prepared by the Agricultural Department with the assistance of the honest trade and the producers, yet it does not appear that a body of country members made an effort to make the measure law. Apparently, when Mr. Moore brought in his bill, the representatives of the producers discovered for the first time that their constituents were being exploited and practically speaking defrauded. It is more than probable that if country members would post themselves on more of the matters which affect the important interests of the farmers other abuses which are known to nearly everybody outside of Parliament might be "discovered." The Fertilisers Bill, first introduced by the Minister for Agriculture in the late session, was withdrawn in favour of a much shorter and very much less effective measure. Having waited all these years, the producers are asked to accept a measure of relief which practically throws the responsibility of administering an Act of Parliament upon their own shoulders. The bill was almost all one clause, and this may be quoted in full for the guidance of farmers:—

Clause 3.—The vendor of any fertiliser shall on demand furnish to the purchaser a statement as to the nature and quantities of the chemical constituents of such fertiliser in the form to be prescribed, and any person refusing to so furnish such statement, or furnishing an incorrect or false statement, shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Act, and shall be liable on the first conviction to a penalty not exceeding £10, and to any subsequent offence to a penalty not exceeding £25, and in addition shall be liable to pay such costs and expenses as the Court trying the offence may award.

The original bill, which followed the lines of measures in operation elsewhere, provided that the vendor should issue a certificate showing the analyses of the fertilisers supplied, and copies of these certificates should be lodged with the Agricultural Department. Power was to be given to an authority to enter premises of vendors and so forth; in short, the responsibility of keeping the vendor on the straight track was, as is usual in such cases, thrown upon the State. Several members urged that the same principle should be introduced in the short bill, but the most that could be accomplished was the omission of the words "on demand." A casual amendment brought forward by Mr. Mark Morten to provide that the statement should be furnished "on or before delivery of the goods purchased" was negatived, but Mr. Eden George succeeded in having the word "neglecting" inserted in place of "refusing."

The effect of the clause, therefore, is that the vendor shall supply a correct statement to the purchaser of the chemical constituents, but the onus of proving that the statement is correct is thrown upon the purchaser. Presumably the farmer, to secure protection, would need to have each parcel of fertiliser purchased analysed at his own expense in order to check the statement. Supposing the farmer does not undertake this expensive and troublesome duty, and the fertiliser fails to increase the yield of the crop to which it is applied, he has no means of ascertaining whether he has been defrauded, or whether the manure failed through some natural cause, such as the peculiar condition of the land. The difference in the principle involved in this Act and that in the Dairies' Supervision Act pretty clearly illustrates the treatment the farmer receives at the hands of Parliament compared to that meted out to the commercial class which supplies his requirements. The law does not provide that if the consumer is not satisfied with the condition of a dairy farmer's premises he may take steps to have the farmer penalised. On the contrary, the State pays inspectors, whose duty it is to see that the farmer acts fairly to the consumer. When the position is reversed, and it is shown, according to Mr. Moore, that the farmers are being defrauded to the extent of £250,000 a year on the sales of adulterated manures, to say nothing of the loss in crops, they are graciously allowed the power to constitute themselves honorary officers of the State to bring offenders to justice. After all, the great producing interests of which our public men never tire of prating go down very easily when they clash with the mighty influences of the city middlemen. However, though the long-awaited measure is not as satisfactory as it should be the producers will be glad of even this small degree of protection.

It is doubtful if the farmers, previous to this bill being introduced, had a comprehensive idea of the extent of the trade in adulterated fertilisers or the risk run in purchasing manures from suppliers who had not been proved honest. The Minister for Agriculture, who displayed praiseworthy determination to secure some legislation, stated that analyses showed that fertilisers that had been sold at £4 10s per ton were absolutely valueless. A fertiliser sold at £5 5s was proved worth only £2 7s 8d, and that the extent of the villainous trade was considerable was proved by the estimated loss of £50,000 per year to the producers. This, of course, takes no account of the deterrent effect upon farmers and others who were beginning to improve their methods in the hope of increasing their returns. A man who pays £4 10s for a reputed fertiliser and receives no return is very apt to declare the use of plant foods a costly failure, and to refuse to repeat the experiment. Now that the actual state of affairs, to which we have frequently directed attention, has been exposed, men on the land will doubtless make the best use they can of the guesided measure provided for them.

OUR YORKSHIRE WOOL LETTER.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

BRADFORD, Nov. 25.

If ever there was a time when wool deceived the majority of men in the trade, that time is now, for instead of values easing, as was generally expected, a decided turn upward has taken place, and events seem to indicate a full continuance of to-day's new standard. Last Tuesday the last series of colonial wool sales for the year began under very favourable conditions as far as the trade is concerned, but under extreme wintry conditions. But men realised that they could not nurse themselves, for however comfortable it might have been to sit over the fire, still it was imperative that we should be on the move and make the best of the few days' available sales. I think I never saw so many Yorkshire faces moving round the various warehouses on an opening day, and when we are given only seven days on which to meet the wants of another seven weeks, it was imperative that everyone should be on the spot and try to pick up wool to the best of one's ability. Prices have now got to a fairly high level, a great many people are hesitating and wondering what to do, for it is certain that if there had to be a reversal of the programme and lower values had to prevail, then not a few would have their fingers burnt. I do not think that we are likely to see any great changes in wool values for some time to come, unless the Eastern war suddenly comes to a finish, for in the absence of all stocks men must buy to meet even current wants. Even among the foreigners visiting Coleman-street, there is a more optimistic tone expressed, and as they are buying liberally abroad it seems as if even merinos are going to maintain their place. Both France and Germany appear to be wanting wool for to-day they are bidding freely, and do not seem particular about paying an extra half-penny to secure good combing and clothing descriptions. So long as there is the demand, so long will prices continue to be maintained, and, judging by the bare boards at Yorkshire, even buyers from that quarter will need some decent quantities if machinery is to be kept going in anything like a decent way.

MERINOS NOW THE CHEAPEST.

The great change which has come over crossbreds has undoubtedly "capped" everybody, and another 1½d advance for the raw material has given rise to a good deal of gossip in clubs and where business men congregate. Some optimistic souls say there is no telling where values may yet soar to, for when 16½d is being asked for 40s tops, and wool selling at three times the price it was at the November series, 1901, there must be something far-reaching on the market. Nobody to-day can touch a bit of decent fleece crossbred wool under a shilling per lb, and with merinos at certainly no more, men are beginning to think that they might as well buy the finer article as the heavier. So far as Yorkshire manufacturers are concerned, no matter what the price of crossbreds they must have them, and with so many people fast for the wool the prices at which they are selling are being paid most freely. For the present there is certainly less attention being given to the merino; but for all that there is an inherent strength about them yet which is highly creditable. There is no question of a doubt that Melbourne and Sydney, going as they have done, have added material strength to the situation, and with London following suit the outlook has brightened considerably. We are really at the time of the year when it is hard to say how the ultimate consumer will receive the advance in crossbreds; but if that is maintained there is little doubt about consumers pushing fine cloths for all they are worth. Taking quality for quality, the merino is undoubtedly the cheaper of the two, and so far as can be made out, consumption is slightly better than it was. If trade throughout the United Kingdom was only better then there would be a sounder foundation on which to build hopes of a renewed attention being given to finer qualities, but at present there is no very great amount of trade doing in flotanies, and manufacturers might be busier than what they are, especially Bradford dress goods people and those making worsted coatings. How far it is possible to trace the present rise of 5 per cent. in London as being directly due to any increase in consumption it is impossible to say, but I rather incline to think that the present move is due to the influence of the crossbred boom, coupled with the absence of all stocks in consuming centres. On the Bradford market the difference in the sale of merinos and crossbreds is almost as great as darkness is to light, and Bradford topmakers yesterday put up their prices another penny per lb for a 40s top—or 2d advance in two weeks.

PRESENT AND PAST VALUES.

With the last series of colonial auctions it may be said that another season for new clip wools begins, there usually being a fairly respectable weight of new clip wools to offer. Of late years, what has been done one season has been no criterion of the following season, and it will not be amiss if we look at what has been ruling prices for three leading descriptions of wool at the November series:—

NOVEMBER VALUES FOR WOOL.

	Merino, Victorian. Good serd. per lb.	Merino, N.S.W. Avge. grease. per lb.	Crossbred, N.Z. ½-bred grse. per lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
November, 1904 ..	2 1	1 0½	1 2
,, 1903 ..	1 11	0 10	1 0½
,, 1902 ..	1 11	0 10½	0 11½
,, 1901 ..	1 7	0 9	0 8½
,, 1900 ..	1 5	0 7½	0 8½
,, 1899 ..	2 7	1 1½	1 0½
,, 1898 ..	1 7½	0 10½	0 9
,, 1897 ..	1 5	0 7½	0 9½
,, 1896 ..	1 5	0 7½	0 9
,, 1895 ..	1 6½	0 8	C 10
,, 1894 ..	1 4	0 9½	0 9

It will be seen from the above that in the case of merinos, values to-day for New South Wales are not a great way off what they were five years ago, while for the halfbred descriptions there is a sensible improvement. The trade feels that for all practical purposes fine woods are dear enough, but in the case of crossbreds conditions to-day are altogether beside themselves, otherwise there would be a vast change. There is such a demand to-day on foreign account for heavy, coarse fabrics that it is without precedent since the Franco-Prussian War in 1872, and some seem to think that before conditions change the boom of

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Sirs,—We have analysed Kola-Cup, and find it to be a compound of kola nuts with wine and other vegetable substances in correct proportions, forming a pure and wholesome tonic, CONTAINING NO POISONS WHATEVER. We shall get samples from time to time to see that the preparation is kept up to this standard.

Yours truly,

Messrs. Elliott Bros., Ltd. DIXON and BYRN.

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PROMOTES STRENGTH.
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DOSE.—A wineglass full; if a long drink is desired, pour the wineglass full into a tumbler and add cold water.

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LARGE well-furnished balcony Room vacant, meals, board 35s, 7 Jersey-terrace, Crown-st, Domain.

MANLY.—Balcony ROOM, suit married couple, Miss Powell, Lorne.

MOMAN.—Accommodation for M. C. or 2 Friends in priv. fam., gd. table, mod. Clifton, Avenue-rd.

NEUTRAL BAY, Cranganbar, Bayswat., close whf.—Large ROOMS, sea bathing, excellent Accommod.

N. SYDNEY, Monteroe, McLaren-st, beautiful grounds, tennis, tram at gates, every convenience.

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TO LET, comf. front ROOM to respectable person. Apply 10 Baltic-st, Newtown.

THREE or four Rooms, well furn., in private fam., with use of kit., bath, gas, laundry, etc., 22 Castle Hant. No. 2 Mona-terrace, New South Head-rd., Rushcutter Bay.

UNFURN. large Room, or furn. Bal. Room, use of kit., homely family. 44 Wilton-st, Surry Hills.

UNFUR. Room, 26/., by 16, use kit. (stove), and dining-rm. 22 Kendall-st., Moore Park, cheap.

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LADY requires Double ROOM, quiet family, no other boarders, board optional.
State terms and full particulars to
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MANLY.—Lady req. B., K., refined home, single rm., 22s 6d per week. Eastern. Herald Offices.

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WANTED, a person to Board as Epileptic, used to farm work, State terms, to A. B., P.O., M'ville.

WANTED, an unfurn. Front Room (downstairs), in Enmore, quiet indisp. Miss Wait, Enmore P.O.

YOUNG Man wants a Single ROOM, close to city. Terms to J. C. h., Herald, King-st.

POULTRY, DOGS, &c.

WANTED, Pair GREYHOUNDS, cheap, for rabbiting. Avondale, 2 James-st, Redfern.

SPORTING.

THE TURF.

The following scratchings were recorded yesterday in connection with Tattersall's annual meeting:—Tattersall's Cup, Lord Lovell; Carrington Stakes, Mullison; Hurdle Race, Olynthus and Belmore II.; Juvenile Stakes and Nursery Handicap, Lancaster Lass; New Year's Gift and Northcote Handicap, Simnel; Flying Welter, Enawoena; all engagements, Kellner and Saraswati.

Carrageen was withdrawn yesterday from the S.T.C. Anniversary Handicap.

Orange Hospital (January 25), Jindera (January 30), and Byrock J.C. (February 3) race meetings have been granted registration by the A.J.C.

L. H. Hewitt, the crack New Zealand jockey, is in great form at present. At the recent Christchurch meeting he rode five winners and one second out of six mounts. This record, it is stated by an exchange, has only once been beaten in the colony.

At the request of the Corowa R.C., the A.J.C. committee have consented to remit the balance of the disqualification imposed upon the jockeys Leach and Gordon for taking part in a "strike" against the firstnamed club some months ago.

The Cooma Racing Club recently applied to the A.J.C. for permission to include an event for polo ponies in its programme. The A.J.C., however, has decided to refuse the application.

The appeal of the jockey S. Houseman, who was recently disqualified by the stipendiary stewards in connection with the Lady Brockleigh case, was dealt with by the A.J.C. committee yesterday and dismissed. The committee declined to lift the disqualification imposed upon E. Simmons and the mare Isisford at the last meeting of Newcastle Tattersall's Club; while the appeal of W. Chapman against the decision of the Bourke Jockey Club in the Crest case was also dismissed. In connection with the case of A. Inkpen, it was decided to alter the balance of the term of disqualification to suspension.

The manner in which some horses are allowed to play up at the post and cause the starting of a race to be delayed has long been a matter of comment among racegoers. In fact, the vagaries of some animals taking part at Sydney meetings have become so well known that their appearance in a race is sufficient to cause the spectators to resign themselves to what they regard as the inevitable. Only this week our Newcastle correspondent mentioned a case in which a notorious delinquent in this respect caused a race to be half an hour late in starting. This in itself is bad enough, but it frequently happens that a horse while playing up is enabled to get a break on the other starters, which completely spoils their chances of success, and their owners and trainers are thereby penalised simply because they take the trouble and care to break and train their horses so that they will behave properly when at the barrier. Two or three cases of this kind took place at suburban meetings not so long ago. Mr. Mackellar, the A.J.C. starter, brought the subject before the A.J.C. yesterday, and the committee, with a view to combating the evil, invested him with full power in the case of horses continuously obstructing the start, to send the field away without them.

The amount of work required of some of the horses in and about Brisbane during the last few months is beginning to have its effect. The Goze gelding Zos was in a very bad way after a gallop he did a couple of mornings ago, and the seat of the trouble was subsequently located in the off fore fetlock. It was found necessary to pack the injured limb in ice for a whole day, but it will be some considerable time before he sports silk again. Both Shrubbreeze and Creagh Patrick were very sore on Monday at the Q.T.C. meeting, and others similarly troubled were Gozard and Lord Bernie.

The Russley mare Heath, who was taken to Western Australia a short while back, died last week from congestion of the lungs. The mare had been liberally entered for the current meeting of the W.A.T.C.

The name of Prince Bernie has been bestowed upon the two-year-old colt by Little Bernie from Princess.

The attendance at the Western Australian Turf Club's meeting on Wednesday was estimated at 23,000, being an increase of 5000 as compared with the figures for Cup day last year. The amount passed through the totalisator for the day was £23,388.

The programme of pony and galloway races to be held at Rosebery Park on Tuesday next is advertised in this issue. Entries must be lodged with the secretary (Mr. A. E. Bateman) this afternoon.

Entries for the Kensington Racing Club's meeting on Wednesday next close with the secretary (Mr. R. Henningham) at 5 p.m. today. The programme appears in our business columns.

The last pony and galloway meeting to be held in the metropolis during the present year will take place at Epping this afternoon. The first event is timed for 2.15. Forest Lodge and Balmain trams will be available every three minutes after 12.45 p.m.

Gladstone, who won the Auckland Summer Cup yesterday, is a full brother to the brilliant Gladsome. To date Gladstone has been only a moderate performer, his best performance probably being his win in the Dunedin Guineas some weeks back. A half-brother to the abovenamed two, by San Francisco, is included in the Wellington Park yearlings which are to be sold to-day.

Racing on sundown on Wednesday till dawn on Thursday the caretaker kept a gang of men at work artificially watering Randwick racecourse from the seven furlongs post to the judge's box, and the operation was repeated last night.

Mr. James Chambers has secured a lease of Highflyer from Mr. R. Skuthorpe, and the big son of Grafton, who is now at Randwick, will go on to Morpeth as a trained.

With the exception of a few rattling gallops, the work done at Randwick yesterday was of ordinary character, and compared with that of last week uninteresting. The greater part of it was done outside a hurdle on the middle grass track. Cherson was the first out, and ran a mile, and finishing in his usual attractive manner left it behind in 1m 47⅗s. Talofa was out running six furlongs in 1m 19⅘s, and Bimnia beat Coolah by ten lengths over five furlongs in 1m 4⅘s. Deemster ran seven furlongs nicely in 1m 34s, and Mutandum beat Protector by any number of lengths over a mile in 1m 49⅘s. Delcore with a light weight up, galloped six furlongs well, and Wait-a-While was a trifle in front of Sunderland when six furlongs had been run in 1m 20⅘s. Mabella beat Mimeo by three or four lengths over five furlongs in 1m 5s, and Belfry similarly treated Panama over seven in 1m 32s. Jim Dorset bowled along for six furlongs, a distance which Belle Marie ran in in 1m 21s; but Marie Corelli, who went with Musket Arrow, was not asked to do better than 1m 24s for it. Green Mountain and Elvo were fully extended to run a mile in 1m 46⅘s, and at the finish of a similar distance, run in 1m 45⅗s, the best of the morning. Myall beat Lady Simmer by two and Waterworks by six lengths. Kilfera ran six furlongs in 1m 19⅘s, and Picturesque five in 1m 6s. Haloya strode over half a mile with something in hand in 52s, and Holophote beat Rosemead over six furlongs in 1m 19⅘s. Handsome and Fashoda, who were barefooted, ran six and seven furlongs, respectively, at a rattling pace, and Sir Paunel beat Victory by a couple of lengths, with High Life and Helen Mary a dozen lengths further astern, over six furlongs in 1m 19s. Overdale travelled a mile and a quarter at three-quarter pace, and a six furlong working gallop went down to Zethos. Wandain spurted a short course smartly, while Sarto and Graceton ran six furlongs together, and Parting Glass carried her owner over five furlongs at nearly top speed. Refrain beat Wee Laddie over half a mile in 53⅘s, while Douro ran the last four of five furlongs in 54s. Lochino and Woodlander travelled five furlongs at three-quarter pace, and a mile and a quarter working gallop went down to Chiefswood and Dalkeith. Auld Acquaintance was not extended to run a mile in 1m 54s, while Birida and Cakewalk were each let off with easy tasks. North Head moved very short and sore in a canter around the sand. Nothos, who looks light, did some easy pacing on the tan, where Gerardy and Mohair, ran a short course together. Port Jackson had the call over Cato at the end of six furlongs which she ran in in 1m 17⅘s, and E.L.C. ran all over Coracle in a half-mile spurt, run in 54s. With light weights up Long Tom and Fanshawe were bracketed for a mile and a half, and the former won by a dozen lengths, knocking off the last mile and a quarter in 2m 19s. Lady Wallace ran five furlongs in 1m 7s. Adnaw, ridden by W. Burke, jumped six hurdles in first-rate style, while Toongra (Godby), Oliver (P. Regan), and Cylsia (H. Cook), joined for a school over the steeplechase fences, but Toongra was the only one not to misbehave. He jumped the round of the course faultlessly. After jumping two fences badly, Oliver hit the third and gave Regan a rough fall. Crisis bucked over two fences awkwardly but safely, and refused the third.

VICTORIAN SPORTING NOTES.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The attendance at Caulfield on Boxing Day was better than on the corresponding day last year. On that occasion the fixture just about paid its way, but this year, with the stakes somewhat smaller, a profit of £250 was made.

In connection with the V.R.C. New Year's meeting, Orlando has been scratched for the steeplechase.

N.S.W. TROTTING CLUB.

The New South Wales Trotting Club held a meeting at Epping yesterday. An inquiry was held into the running of Mickie, in the Epping Handicap, with the result that the owner (E. J. Keany) and the rider (A. Goddard) were severely cautioned. The stewards also found it necessary to severely censure R. Beckett (owner), and A. Milleon (driver), in connection with the performance of Wicket in the Pony Handicap, while A. Grant was fined 10s for being late at the post in the Trial Handicap.

Trial Handicap, of 15 sovs, 1m 1f.—Sweet Nell, 2s behind (A. Grant), 1; Southerly Buster, 4s behind (E. Beckett), 2; President, 4s behind (S. Brown), 3. Other starters: Honey Bee, Eva, Glendon, Peggy, Harwood, Orange Maid, Guy Fawkes, Maori. Betting: 6 to 4 on Lady W., 2 to 1 v Amiable, 3 to 1 v True Blue, 5 to 1 v Julian, 10 to 1 v others. Won by a length. Time, 2m 28s.

Trotting Club Handicap, of 15 sovs, 1m.—Miss Irvington, 4s behind (A. White), 1; Shamrock II., scr (S. J. Small), 2; Stormy, 7s behind (S. Williams), 3. Other starters: Victor, Amiable, Goldbar. Betting: 2 to 1 on Miss Irvington, 3 to 1 v Stormy, 6 to 1 each v Shamrock and Victor, 10 to 1 each v Amiable and Goldbar. Won by 12 lengths. Time, 2m 30⅘s.

Pony Handicap (14h), of 15 sovs, 1m.—Almeda, 13s behind (F. Batt), 1; Lill, 10s behind (W. Martin), 2; Cymro, 12s behind (F. Geddes), 3. Other starters: Wicket, Penny, Banker, Orlando, Lady Lyne, Jingo. Betting: 3 to 1 on Orlando, 4 to 1 v Almeda, 10 to 1 v others. Won by 12 lengths. Time, 2m 43s.

Epping Handicap, of 20 sovs, 1m.—Lady Kate, scr (W. Martin), 1; Victor, scr (F. Smith), 2; Belmont Jr., 10s behind (A. Milleon), 3. Other starters: Trudger, Mickie. Won by half a furlong. Time, 4m 4s.

AUCKLAND SUMMER CUP.

AUCKLAND, Thursday.

The Summer meeting of the Auckland Racing Club was continued to-day, when the principal event on the card resulted as follows:—Summer Sup, 1½m: Gladstone, by Seaton Delaval—Miss Gladys, 1; Strathaven, 2; Chowrka, 3. Time, 2m 19 4-5s.

EPPING RACES.

The following weights have been issued for to-day's pony and galloway races at Epping:—

Flying Handicap, 4f.—Scotch Pebble, 9st 5lb; Dandelion, 9st 4lb; Early Rose II., 8st 12lb; Kola, 8st 10lb; Lancaster, 7st 10lb.

Thirteen-two Handicap, 4½f.—Satina, 9st 9lb; Beautiful Girl, 9st 8lb; Vulpine, 9st 6lb; Coelus, 7st 12lb; Amyas, 8st 8lb; Volpine, 8st 6lb; Coelus, 7st 10lb; Lancaster, 7st 10lb.

Thirteen-two Handicap, 4½f.—Satina, 9st 9lb; Beautiful Girl, 9st 8lb; Vulpine, 8

[For Shipping, Meteorological, and Mail Notices, See Page 8.]

BIRTHS.

BACKHOUSE.—November 20, at Nurse Temby's, Nyngan, the wife of George Backhouse, Miriliba, Dandaloo—a daughter.

BURKE.—December 29, at Astrea, Watkin-street, Rockdale, the wife of J. A. Burke—a son.

DEATHS

GREEN.—December 29, 1904, at her parents' residence, Geminorium, Juliett-street, Marrickville, Vera May, the beloved and only daughter of Charles Arthur and Julia Green, aged 10 years 9 months, after a long and painful illness.

HARRY.—December 24, at Ellesmere, Talbot-street, Ballarat, Victoria, Ruth, third daughter of Rev. F. E. and Mrs. Harry, aged 3 years and 6 months.

HORSFIELD.—December 29, at her late residence, 151 Redfern-street, Redfern, Sarah, beloved wife of Samuel Horsfield, aged 63 years. Home papers please copy.

LATTY.—December 26, 1904, at Camden, accidentally drowned, William J. Latty, late of Alexandria, aged 25.

MOSELY.—December 28th, at Lymington Mansions, West End-lane, London, Mrs. Hinda Mosely, dearly beloved mother of Mrs. A. L. Lion, and of Maurice E. Mosely, in her 78th year. (By cable.)

OWER.—December 25, at Leura, The Esplanade, Brighton Beach, Melbourne, Charlotte Gray, third daughter of William and Mary Ower, aged 36 years.

QUINLAN.—At his mother's residence, Victoria-avenue, Chatswood, Richard (Dick) Quinlan, late of Darlinghurst, youngest son of the late Matthew and Eleanor Quinlan, aged 18 years.

IN MEMORIAM.

CALE.—In loving memory of Florence Adelaide Cale, who departed this life December 29, 1903, at Louisaville, Wentworth Falls. Inserted by her loving mother, brothers, and sisters.

CALE.—In loving memory of our dear friend, Florence Cale, who died December 30, 1903. Inserted by her loving friends, May and Maggie Wormley, Auburn.

FERNLEY.—In fond and loving memory of my dear father, David Fernley, who died December 28, 1902, aged 56 years; also of my dearly loved mother, Jessie Howard Fernley, died 30th December, 1902, aged 46 years.

Forget them—no, I never will,
I loved them here and love them still,
Nor love them less because they're gone
From here to their eternal home.

Inserted by their loving daughter, Lina Fernley.

GODDEN GALLOP.—In loving memory of my dear husband and our dear father, Alfred Godden-Gallop, who died December 30, 1903. Sadly missed. Inserted by his loving wife, daughters, and son, Arthur.

PHILLIPS (nee Drew).—In loving memory of our dear sister Mabel, who passed away December 30, 1902. He giveth his beloved rest. Inserted by Harold and Nance.

POCOCK.—To the memory of our dear mother, Mathilda, who died December 29, 1903, aged 49 years. Sweet rest at last. Inserted by her daughter and son-in-law, Ella and Will Prior.

SWAN.—In loving memory of my dear son, William Henry Swan, who died at his residence, Dixon-street, December 30, 1903, aged 24 years. At rest. Inserted by his loving mother, E. Swan.

TOOTH.—In fond, loving, and affectionate memory of our darling mother, Emily, who departed this life December 30, 1901. Inserted by her loving daughter and son-in-law, Jessie and F. T. Jones.

WARD.—In fond and loving memory of our dear mother, Mary Ward, who departed this life 30th December, 1901, at Young-street, Annandale. Sadly missed by her son and daughters, Joseph and Mona Ward, Hannah Fletcher, Sarah Brignell.

RETURN THANKS.

Mr. and Mrs. PATRICK PRIOR return sincere THANKS to their many friends for their kindness in their late sad bereavement.

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THE MAIL'S £100 PRIZE STORY,

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in which Miss EMMA SMITH, "John Primrose," whose "On a Red Sandhill" our readers have already read and liked, tells an absorbing story of life in this State. Mr. FRED. LEIST has been specially sent by the Mail to the districts in which the story is laid to make the STUDIES FOR ILLUSTRATIONS on the spot.

As the stories will be
OF ABSORBING INTEREST,
and it is often impossible to procure back numbers, readers not already subscribers would do well to ORDER AT ONCE.

The Sydney Morning Herald.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1904.

THE ENGLISH MAIL SERVICE.

The atmosphere of mystery in which Mr. Sydney Smith has chosen to envelop himself when the matter of the English mail service is mentioned in his presence is totally out of place. We are threatened with the stoppage of our present satisfactory weekly mail service in a few weeks' time. The commercial section of the community, after refusing for months to believe that any Government would think seriously of tampering with the system under which we have been able during a long course of years to depend with absolute certainty on the regular transmission and receipt of correspondence, has at last felt compelled to realise the impending danger. It is very anxious to know what the outcome is likely to be, and passionably so, since the regularity of the mail service means much to the business relations existing between Great Britain and this Commonwealth. But Mr. Smith preserves a mysterious silence, and makes no sign. It is not that the Postmaster-General has no information which he might give the public. Sometimes Ministers resort to mystery-mongering when they have nothing to say, and Mr. Smith no doubt remembers how the late Sir Henry Parkes cultivated that practice with a certain degree of success. But then Sir Henry Parkes was Sir Henry Parkes. Mr. Sydney Smith does not aspire to soar to the like heights, and make a mystery of what he does not know, but is content to keep to himself information which he actually has in his possession. There is that report of the conference of Deputy Postmasters-General, for example, in reference to the poundage rates. Mr. Smith "has determined not to make it public for the present." When asked if he will do anything to obviate the threatened public inconvenience, says our report, "he declines to answer." When questioned in the public interest about the negotiations in progress we are told that "he makes the invariable reply that he can neither affirm nor deny anything." There is but one further stage of achievement the Postmaster-General can compass. Its moment will arrive when Mr. Sydney Smith is reported as having shaken his head. We shall then have arrived in this matter of the mail service at the climax of Parliamentary and Ministerial wisdom.

The public is impressed by all this, and impressed in different ways, but it is not satisfied. It would naturally like to know something definite about the progress of the negotiations in which it is so much interested, but the Postmaster-General thinks otherwise. There may be two reasons for this. One is the fascination of mystery, and perhaps this has hypnotised Mr. Smith. It can hardly be that he thinks publicity will in any way interfere with the progress of any negotiations which may be in progress, because he is of course aware that it is the publicity which the matter has received, and that alone, which is forcing matters in the direction of some sort of settlement. So long as the subject was the plaything of politicians little heed seemed to be given to whether the convenience of the public or the regularity of the established weekly mail service with England was menaced or not. He wishes the arrangement to remain in darkness until it is sprung on the Commonwealth by way of surprise, but there is a rumour already in existence that the Orient Company may perhaps solve the difficulty by providing a quicker service for £18,000 more than the rate of payment under the existing contracts, or about £100,000 a year. But why, in the name of all that is cryptic, should not the Postmaster-General make the facts of this important matter of public interest fully known?

GOLD-PROSPECTING.

Our correspondence columns this morning contain letters from practical men on the important question of prospecting for gold in particular and on the laches of the Mines Department in general. As to the first it may be said that some danger exists lest the Government be expected to do everything. We have not written on the possibilities of help for the unemployed through the Mines Department to smooth the way for the erection of a multitude of additional leaning posts. There are quite enough weary people in the State without further unstringing of flaccid muscles; and in suggesting that our gold resources are worthy of renewed attention we wish to stimulate those most concerned to help themselves. It may be objected in reply that the weary and out-of-work have no resources and must be assisted. If prospecting for gold is not to be a farce there must be initial financial help, and much moral backing, and our critics will doubtless point to the hard days following 1893. But the great thing worth noting in connection with the financial crists of a decade ago was that men gladly went into the country to make a living. Fossicking was undertaken, no doubt, in numbers of cases under impossible conditions, but the right spirit was there. One correspondent contends forcibly enough that prospecting for gold is no picnic, and that those unused to the business have little hope of success. Nevertheless, if among the unemployed can be found a sufficient number of the right sort of men, willing to endure hardship away from the city, ready to follow a capable leader, and satisfied to earn little or nothing for a while if only the rations hold out, something could be done. Certainly that spirit did a great deal for Queensland in 1893, and this State lost little by its assistance to those who attacked the wilderness in earnest in those days. It is a question of getting the individual to see that the State cannot be expected to save him, and that there are still as good chances of making a living in our auriferous areas now as at any time in the past if he will do as his fathers did.

But this raises the issue of a live Mines Department in its most impressive shape. The Government must act through the department, and be guided by its advice. If it is sleepy or tape-bound, resentful of criticism, or careless about it, there is little use in asking for a statesmanlike handling of a difficult question higher up. Moreover, the laws relating to mining must be worthy of the State, and an inspiration to the department. This is, of course, harping again on the string of reform, but we make no apology for insisting that there must be reform. Mining has so much promise in it that it would be worth the enterprise of some of our citizens to do for it what has been done for wool by the Royal Exchange in this city. Let the citizens get a lever under the Mines Department through private enterprise in this way, and it should be possible to make both the Government and the responsible officials realise how much may be done by going the right way to work. The Minister for Mines may complain as the Premier is doing that we are in too much hurry, that everything comes to him who can wait, and so on. But there are some things which are like the tide, and brook no waiting, and in this matter of encouragement to mining to give at once is to give twice. The Government itself some months ago undertook to separate the Departments of Mines and Agriculture, which would have been a valuable step, but that is amongst the things undone that ought to have been done.

THE IRON INDUSTRY.

The two subjects of the local manufacture of steel and iron and that of the locomotives required by the Railway Commissioners have become associated in the public mind, partly because they have been before the public together, and partly because we seem to make no progress with either of them. Yesterday we had a statement from the Minister for Works (Mr. C. A. Lee) regarding the first-named. From that it does not appear that there is much hope of assistance from the Government in the way of opening up the iron and steel working industry. It is admitted that the ores are there, rich in quality, and generous as to quantity. This State stands in a position of exceptional advantage in this respect. She is the envy of her Federal neighbours. But we do nothing to turn these potentialities of wealth into live assets. Year after year, as the statement we published yesterday shows, New South Wales goes on wasting its chances, and content if it can pay its way without making any progress or doing anything to attract population. Its resources for the most part lie as nature gave them to us, and it is only when a special effort is called for to make up for the ravages of the drought or to find employment in bad times that we bestir ourselves at all. When we do the result is so gratifying that we at once fall back into the normal condition of content with things as they are, and leave Ministers and representatives of the people to deal with the present by means of official documents and redtape and sealing wax, in the hope that the future will look after itself as before.

But in the meantime the ironworks at Lithgow brought into existence by private enterprise are lying almost idle, and the great engineering workshops at the Clyde are on the eve of suspending operations. In the latter case it will mean casting hundreds of men out of employment. The problem before the Government is how to administer its trust so that the resources of the State and the great industries which the investment of private capital has established shall receive sufficient encouragement to keep them going. It does not need to be stated that the stoppage of either would be a loss to the country, and this fact has been impressed on the attention of one Ministry after another. That of Sir John See surmounted the difficulty suggested by postponing a decision so long that there was another Ministry in office before the decision was arrived at. We looked to a Reform Ministry to remedy that, but as it now appears the Cabinet elected on the Reform ticket is not disposed to face the question any more than its predecessors were. It tells us that the contract price tendered for the locomotives is too high, and that the iron ores are so rich that they can be worked at a profit without a bonus. But is the subject to be allowed to rest there? Granting that the matter is a difficult one, is the Government to shirk it because it is difficult? Are we to go on year after year playing with these important subjects, because the new Premier has no more courage or public spirit than the old, or because the community has got in the way of expecting nothing that needs initiative, energy, and public spirit from its Governments?

LAW REFORM.

The outcry from Broken Hill over the abolition of the local Circuit Court is quite natural under the circumstances. A town of such importance is bound to feel aggrieved at any diminution of its privileges; and in the matter of administration of justice it insists that to discontinue the Circuit Court is to infringe a very definite right. It will not be difficult to sympathise with Broken Hill in this protest against the first pinch of reform, and no doubt the criticism of the stipendiary magistrate represents a very strong public opinion in that far-away mining centre, so strong that the Attorney-General has found it necessary to make a defence of the action just taken. It may be said of Mr. Wade, as of Broken Hill, that he deserves every sympathy. We may add also that the State should round out the circle by sympathising with itself in the demand for reform; and by the time everybody and every centre concerned in the coming economies, which must be forced upon the Carruthers Government, has made his and its wail there will be a great deal of noise. But Broken Hill must remember that there must be a beginning, and to be the first to bear the burden of reform should not be construed into a definite wrong. Three Circuit Courts have been discontinued, as a matter of fact; and Mudgee and Young are in the same boat with the far western centre. Young has a courthouse which has just cost £14,000, and the inquiry is being made whether there is any economy in shutting up so expensive a monument to past extravagance. This means, if it means anything, that justice is to be administered without regard to expense, and the Attorney-General cannot possibly subscribe to any such view. His defence is that with the practice of economy at Broken Hill £400 per year will be saved, that committals to Quarter Sessions may still be made, and that in any event the discontinuance of the Circuit Court will cause little inconvenience, since nearly all the cases tried during the last two years could have been remitted to the Quarter Sessions.

It may be remarked that sympathy is due to Broken Hill, because any hardship will be felt more there than elsewhere. It may legitimately claim that it should be dealt with on the widest possible margin of consideration in the matter of holding Courts. But while allowing this the public is bound to think of the great burden now being borne through an overgrown administration of justice, and the only line along which Broken Hill may find relief will be in the general feeling that the Government has not gone far enough. It has really only begun to deal with reform. The Department of Justice calls as loudly for vigorous businesslike attention as the rest of the Civil Service, and the Attorney-General's gentle handling of the situation so far as it concerns himself will satisfy nobody. The moral of the outcry from Broken Hill is that it would have been well to deal boldly with the whole administration of justice, since playing with reform is like touching a nettle instead of grasping it. It costs New South Wales as much as Victoria and Queensland put together to dispense justice, and the system generally is cumbersome and unwieldy. Mr. Wade admits as much in the hope that soon the District Courts will be able to cover more ground, and we get a glimpse of piecemeal reform in other directions. What is wanted is a fearless grappling with the whole situation, and then Broken Hill would not feel that it had been made a scapegoat.

INTERNAL RUSSIA.

The remarkable condition of the Russian Empire is evidenced by successive cables. We hear one day of the Moscow Municipality passing resolutions in favour of reform, the next day of these resolutions being condemned by the immediate authorities, and the third day of the president being publicly thanked for his efforts on behalf of reform. Again, the Zemstvos formulate a system under which, as they have reason to think, Russia will be forced from the tight grasp of the bureaucracy, and, a few days later, we have the new Minister for the Interior, whose appointment in the place of his murdered predecessor was supposed to be a concession to the liberal element in politics, condemning this movement in set terms. The Zemstvos it appears, wanted something done, whilst the Minister only wanted to allow people to talk guardedly of doing something. Without going into a number of other self-contradictory movements in Russian politics, we need only refer to the notable scheme of reform announced by the Czar himself in a decree addressed to the Senate of the Empire. There was, according to it, to be full legal redress of grievances, Judges were to be freed from bureaucratic control, the people were to be allowed to bear a larger part in local government, there was to be no interference with the right of subjects to worship as they think proper, and even the restrictions on the press were to be removed, so that Russian readers should be allowed to learn from their newspapers what has happened and is happening, not, as at present, what the bureaucrats think should have happened. This was all very beautiful, but the next day the Czar came out with another decree which practically showed that the bureaucrats had regained their mastery, and that constitutional reform was officially relegated to the background.

The Czar's position in the matter is pathetic in a way. He is supposed to be the supreme Governor of his people; much as Ivan the Terrible, the first Czar, or Peter the Great, was supreme and irresponsible Governor. But circumstances have changed. The people, even in Russia, are not now the flock of thick-headed sheep which the dog or wolf in control could keep in order by indiscriminate massacres. The people are beginning to ask, as the people in France asked towards the end of the eighteenth century, for an admission to the privileges of government. Men are tired of being governed; they demand a share in the government. A pleasant item in the universal upheaval is the regard in which the Czar himself is held. But, unfortunately for Russia, the Czar is not quite sure what he ought to do. He has taken counsel of his Ministers, much as Rehoboam, son of Solomon, took counsel of his wise men. Some of his counsellors recommended the scorpion policy and urged him to greater strictness in the maintenance of what they called autocracy, but what the world calls bureaucracy. Others represented that the spirit of the time called for some modification in the old system, but apparently their eloquence was wasted. Thus the agitation for reform grows, mixed with sinister elements, with attempts by dynamiters, with renewed activity on the part of the Nihilists, with the surly hatred of Finns, whose constitutional freedom has been recently assailed, and with the longing of Poles to avenge old wrongs; and all this whilst the country is engaged in a sanguinary, unpopular war, when her military prestige has been lowered and her navy has made itself at once the pity and the laughing-stock of the world. Resolutions are being passed by representative bodies throughout the country condemning the war as senseless and ruinous, and we know that men are using all sorts of expedients to avoid conscription. An unpopular war has been loudly condemned before now by irresponsible public orators in countries used to the liberty of free speech. Little harm was done thereby. But when a country suddenly wakes up to the fact that passive obedience and passive paying of taxes imposed by a non-representative governing body are impositions which are out of date in these days, there is trouble to be expected. It is impossible to apply maxims derived from experience in civilised countries to the unwieldy empire of Russia, with its hundreds of thousands of uneducated peasants. But, if these were to be applied, it would be plain that very little separates the Russian Government from a movement which will strongly resemble a revolution.

Law Business.—The next sittings of the District Court will be opened on February 1, and the business of the Land Appeal Court will be resumed on the 13th of the same month.

Payment of Pensions.—During the closing hours of the last session of Parliament, Mr. Fell, in the Legislative Assembly, asked the Premier whether the arrangement made by him with regard to the payment of Civil Service salaries the day before Christmas could be extended to pensions paid by the State Government. The Premier replied that in his opinion all Ministers, members of Parliament, public officers, and pensioners should be paid on Friday, December 23, two days before Christmas. When pressed by Mr. Fell for an assurance that State pensioners would be paid on December 23, Mr. Carruthers added that the direction to pay on December 23 was a general one. It was possible, however, that on account of the law this arrangement could not be carried out in some cases, hence he would not give a promise to do a certain thing, only to find out afterwards that he could not carry out his promise. A correspondent points out that the pensions were not paid before Christmas Day, and wishes to know if that course will be followed before New Year's Day. The officers of the Treasury Department stated yesterday that pensions for December, including old-age pensions, will not be paid till next Tuesday, January 3.

An Unregistered Union.—At Dawes Point there is a union which so far has escaped recognition at the Trades Hall. The entrance fee to the union is free, but every newly initiated member is expected to treat the other members to a drink. The name of the organisation is the Trace Boys' Union, and its rules are simple. They are marked on a wall in tar for the world to read, and are inexorable as those of the Spartans. The rules read:—"No pulls under 6d," and "No tick." There may be divers penalties for those who break the rules, but they are unwritten, and probably take some athletic form accompanied by expulsion. The trace-boys' work is to hitch their horses on to the front of heavy loads coming up from the wharfs, and assist in the pulling up to Lower Fort-street. The union has been in existence for some years, and although there have been occasional internal troubles the Arbitration Court has not been called upon to settle any of the difficulties. There are no well-paid secretaries or agitators in the union.

Naval News.—H.M.S. Challenger, second-class cruiser, arrived at Jervis Bay at 6.15 a.m. yesterday from Sydney, for the purpose of searching for a number of unexploded shells reported to be strewn along the foreshores. Upon completion of this work the warship will leave for Hobart. H.M.S. Mildura, which left Sydney a few days ago, completed firing practice at Jervis Bay yesterday and left at 8.50 a.m. to join the fleet at Hobart. According to advices received by yesterday's English mail, Commander Michael H. Hodges, R.N., of H.M.S. Hermes, has been awarded a bronze medal by the Royal Humane Society for his gallant attempt to save the life of Commander Francis W. Melvill, R.N., of H.M.S. Illustrious, who was drowned at Portland on October 2.

The English Mails.—The R.M.S. India arrived at Fremantle yesterday morning, and subsequently resumed her voyage for Adelaide. She brings mails bearing the date of London, December 2, which will be available for delivery on Wednesday next.

San Francisco Mail Service.—The R.M.S. Sonoma, of the Oceanic Company's A. and A. line, returned to her berth at the Circular Quay yesterday afternoon to load for San Francisco, via ports. The outward cargo consists of large lines of wool and other colonial products. The managing agents, Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co., Limited, are in receipt of a cable message advising the arrival of the R.M.S. Sierra at Honolulu, en route for San Francisco. The Sierra left Sydney on December 12, and is due in San Francisco on Monday next.

Departure of the Nineveh.—The first Aberdeen steamer to make the homeward call at Fremantle instead of Albany in Western Australia, as hitherto, is the Nineveh, sailing from Sydney at noon punctually to-day from Dalgety's Wharf at Miller's Point. The Nineveh has a fair number of passengers from Brisbane and Sydney, and will be joined by others at Melbourne and Fremantle for South Africa and England. The Nineveh has loaded a fine cargo, the principal lines put on board at Sydney being 1000 bales of wool, 300 tons of lead, 12,900 carcases of mutton and lamb, 1000 legs of mutton, 2000 pieces of beef, and 500 boxes of butter. The most notable shipments from Brisbane are 1682 bales of wool, 565 cases of meats, and 9100 boxes of butter. The sailing date of the Nineveh from Melbourne is fixed for January 7.

The Australian Mutual Provident Society notifies by advertisement in another column that, owing to the New Year holidays, necessitating the closing of the office on Monday, the 2nd January, annuitants will receive the amount of their annuities on application to-morrow.

The Acting Deputy-Postmaster-General has received the following communication:—"Berne advises cable between Gibraltar and Tangier is interrupted."

GOLD DISCOVERY AT TARCUTTA.

WAGGA, Thursday.

An important gold discovery is reported at Tarcutta, 24 miles from here. Mr. Wilkinson, the police magistrate and mining warden, has gone out to hear applications to mine on private property. A parcel of stone crushed gave 8oz to the ton.

TO-DAY.

Trotting Races: First Event, 2.15 p.m.
Chinese Village and Carnival: Royal Agricultural Ground, 2 to 10 p.m.
Wool Exhibition: Royal Exchange.
Excursion to Hawkesbury River: Train from Redfern 9.10 a.m., from Milson's Point 8.50 a.m.
R.A.A. Band: Centennial Park, 3.30 p.m.
Bioscope Entertainment: Centenary Hall, 8 p.m.
Her Majesty's Theatre: "Patience," 8 p.m.
Lyceum Theatre: "Pretty Peggy." 7.50 p.m.
Theatre Royal: "A Desperate Game," 8 p.m.
Tivoli Theatre: Vaudeville, 7.50 p.m.
Palace Theatre: "Whirl-i-Gig" and "Pousse Cafe," 8 p.m.
Queen's Hall: Bio-Tableau, 2.30 and 8 p.m.
Wirth Bros.' Circus: Phillip Park, 7.30 p.m.
Shooting the Chute and Tobogganing: Manly.
Zoological Gardens, Moore Park: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cycloramas: "Battle of Gettysburg," Illusions, Tattooed Marvel, Cinematograph, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

HARRIS'S NEW YEAR'S GIFT.
2lb Tin Finest Golden Tips, 5s.
HARRIS and CO., Teamen, 37 Strand.—Advt.

THE COMMONWEALTH.

STATE DEBTS CONVERSION.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.)

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

Sir George Turner, Federal Treasurer, has so far recovered from his illness that he is able to leave his home. He is not, however, able to come to town. Spoken to to-day on the subject of loan conversion and its consideration at the conference with State Premiers, he said he was not quite correctly understood. At the conference held last January with reference to earmarking the railway revenues, he did not wish it then to be understood that he wanted to control the railway revenue, but simply that if a conversion of loan were sought on behalf of any State, and the surplus under the Braddon clause was not considered sufficient to cover the interest, there would be added security in being able to say that so much of the railway revenue as was necessary would be allocated for interest-paying purposes. What he intends to propose at Hobart this year he would not say.

MAILS FOR THE MOUNTAINS.

Reports received concerning the use made of the early morning trains from Melbourne to Ballarat and Bendigo have determined the Postmaster-General to call for a report from the postal authorities in Sydney on the possibility of using for postal purposes the corresponding trains running from Sydney to Goulburn and Bathurst. He has received a report on the subject, pointing out the various difficulties, and has asked for further information before definitely deciding one way or the other. When he goes to Sydney next week he will further consider the question.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Some time ago the Imperial Government communicated with the Governments of the States asking them, in view of possible legislation on the subject, to refrain for the present from permitting any wireless telegraph company to use its apparatus for commercial purposes. The matter has been under the consideration of the Commonwealth Postal Department, and probably a bill to amend the Postal Act will be introduced next session, constituting telegraphic business a Government monopoly.

HOTELKEEPERS' TELEPHONES.

About a month ago notice was given by the Postal Department to hotelkeepers who are connected with the telephone service that after January 1 they must take their telephones on the coupon system—if any customers wish to use the instrument they must pay a fee of 3d and receive a coupon. Objection was taken to this, and a private deputation waited on the Postmaster-General on the subject. The result was that on the 21st inst a notification was issued to hotelkeepers—"You are hereby notified that until the telephone regulations have been revised, telephones at hotels will be continued under existing regulations." It was intended to make the coupon telephone order apply alike in all the States, but the latest decision of the Postmaster-General has delayed the operation of the new rule.

The Postmaster-General when seen to-day said that some hotels keep telephones apparently for the convenience of their customers, rather than for their own. A return was prepared a little time ago showing that some hotels averaged 83 calls per day, while others in more central thoroughfares averaged only nine. It is intended to frame new regulations for the telephone department, under which the department shall be able to give three months' notice at any time to any subscriber to take a coupon telephone, or have his instrument cut off. The abuse of the system has been so great that the department is impelled to take some action for the protection of the revenue, and, as under the present regulations only a month's notice can be given of the intention to alter the terms of the contract, and that at the end of half the year or the year for which the telephone is hired, revised regulations are considered necessary to enable the notice to be given at any time. Before finally framing the new regulations, Mr. Sydney Smith desires to see the report by Mr. Hesketh concerning the methods adopted in Europe and America in similar circumstances. The whole matter has been under consideration since June last.

DEFENCE DEPARTMENT'S REMOVAL.

It is improbable that the Minister for Defence and his staff will remove from the Spring-street offices to the Victoria Barracks until about the second week in January. The necessary Orders-in-Council for bringing the new defence control system into force will, it is expected, be passed next week.

IMPORTED FISH.

Several months ago the Customs Department discovered that several firms who imported fish from New Zealand had given short weights to the department, and had paid duty on those weights. Writs were subsequently issued at the suit of the Government against these importers, and the cases are down for hearing in Melbourne in March. Mr. Powers, Federal Crown Solicitor, is in New Zealand taking evidence on commission in connection with the cases.

SEA CARRIAGE OF GOODS ACT.

The Sea Carriage of Goods Act, which deals with ships' bills of lading, will come into operation on Monday.

THE EASTERN SAFE.

ENCOUNTERS A CYCLONE.

ARRIVAL AT THURSDAY ISLAND.

THURSDAY ISLAND, Thursday.

The steamer Eastern, from China and Japan, which was overdue from Port Darwin, arrived last evening. The vessel encountered a cyclone, during which the engines were slowed down. Fortunately nothing untoward happened, and the Eastern resumes her voyage to Sydney this afternoon.

Captain M'Arthur reports that the weather conditions were without precedent on the run across from Port Darwin. Thick rain compelled him to slow down the vessel when nearing Torres Straits, and the Proudfoot shoal light, which was removed some time ago, was much missed.

The passengers by the Eastern are:—

For Brisbane: Mr. F. Hawrison.

For Sydney: Mesdames Robt. Malcolm, A. Rhodes, L. C. Lovatt and three children, and Messrs. J. C. Fitzpatrick, H. Buzard, Asamw Masuka, Collin, Corkhill, Forsyth, James Cummins, Malcolm, A. Rhodes, T. Lear, G. Rovland, J. Burns, C. Diot, Go Ting Lee, Jim Wah, Hume, Captain Scott, Harden, and five in the steerage.

For Melbourne: One in the steerage.

For Adelaide: Mesdames Ryan, Butfield, and Green, Messrs. J. Smith, J. Tyquin, C. Mactomack, G. Jaetsche, U. Schunke, and three Europeans in the steerage.

There are 50 Chinese on deck for all ports.

BRISBANE, Thursday.

Information was received by the Electric Telegraph Department to-day to the effect that the steamer Eastern arrived at Thursday Island at 6.45 p.m. yesterday from Kobe, Hongkong, and Port Darwin.

Some anxiety had been felt at Thursday Island respecting the steamer Eastern, which left Port Darwin for that port on Saturday evening. Messrs. Gibbs, Bright, and Co., the managing agents for the owners, the Eastern and Australian S.S. Company, Limited, received a telegram from Thursday Island stating that the steamer was to have left that port for Sydney yesterday morning.

AN OVERDUE STEAMER.

Intelligence was yesterday received by the Sydney Marine Underwriters' and Salvage Association, Limited, to the effect that the steamer Milton, which was seriously overdue at Bunbury, Western Australia, from Table Bay, had put into Mauritius with her shaft broken. The Milton sailed from South Africa on November 8 last, and was therefore upwards of 50 days out. She has been regarded as overd

THE SIEGE OF PORT ARTHUR

JAPANESE STORM INNER DEFENCES.

CAPTURE OF ERHLUNG-SHAN.

FURIOUS STORMING OF THE FORTS.

OTHER POSITIONS HEAVILY BOMBARDED.

Erhlung-shan, one of the most important forts on the eastern line of the inner defences of Port Arthur, was captured on Wednesday. A lodgment was obtained on the parapet, and after furious fighting, lasting all day, the Russians were driven out of the fort, and the works were carried.

Simultaneously with the storming of Erhlung-shan the Japanese directed a heavy bombardment on the other defences, especially on Itzu-shan on the western lines, where the fire of the besiegers disabled a number of guns.

By these simultaneous attacks the Japanese are developing their plan of dividing and weakening the garrison.

STORMING THE FORTS.

WORKS BRILLIANTLY CARRIED.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" with the besiegers at Port Arthur reports that the Japanese exploded the parapet of Erhlung-shan, one of the eastern forts of the inner line. The stormers delivered a furious assault upon the fort, and the storming at date of telegraphing still continued.

11.35 a.m.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio reports that the Japanese occupied the entire Erhlung-shan forts yesterday.

EXTENDING SIEGE WORKS.

SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS PREPARING.

GENERAL KRONDRATCHENKO KILLED.

The Tokio correspondent of Reuter's Agency reports that dynamiting operations by the Japanese for the construction of parallels against the eastern segment of the main enceinte of Port Arthur are progressing.

The right wing of the besiegers continues its heavy effective shelling of the new town. Preparations for a simultaneous attack on the east and west faces of the fortress, the endeavour being to divide and weaken the defenders, are nearing completion.

Lieutenant-General Kondratchenko, commander of the 7th Siberian Rifle division, was killed during the operations which led to the capture of 203-Metre Hill by the Japanese. General Smirnoff has been wounded, and General Stoessel, commanding the fortress, has been injured by a fall from his horse.

WESTERN FORT ATTACKED.

The fort of Itzu-shan, one of the western works of the interior lines of defence of Port Arthur, contains the remnant of the garrison artillerymen from 203-Metre Hill. It mounts 15 guns and has four stockades in front and two in the rear.

The Japanese fire has destroyed five guns and disabled 1000 men.

SOME JAPANESE LOSSES.

SUSPECTED LOSS OF A CRUISER.

A list has been published of 33 Japanese officers who have been killed and 56 wounded. Presumably the list refers to officers besieging Port Arthur.

The Japanese naval authorities state that nine officers and 65 men, who were on special duty, have been killed.

There is an impression that a Japanese cruiser has been mined and sunk.

According to a later message a further list has been issued at Tokio, showing that 18 officers have been killed, and 86 have been wounded, presumably at Port Arthur.

THE METRE RIDGE CAPTURE.

HEAVY RUSSIAN LOSSES.

Prisoners who have arrived at Tokio report that in the storming and capture of 203-Metre Hill by the Japanese 3000 Russians were killed and 5000 were wounded.

IN MANCHURIA.

THIRD ARMY'S ENTHUSIASM.

General Sakharoff, the Chief of the Russian Staff, reports that Prince Yeldaroff was killed in a skirmish at Pei-tzia-hun, on the Hun-ho.

General Baron Kaulbars, commanding the third Manchurian army of Russia, reports that there is an excellent spirit and enthusiasm among his troops. Their food is good, and their burrows are fairly warm.

PROTECTION FROM FROST.

JAPANESE USE RATSKINS.

The crusade against rats which was undertaken in Japan in 1902 produced so many skins that the Japanese are enabled to distribute among their troops in Manchuria hundreds of thousands of small fur ear protectors against frost bite.

TRANSPORTING AN ARMY.

Since the Russo-Japanese war began the Trans-Siberian railway has carried 537,000 men, 10,800 officers, 118,000 horses, and 15,000,000 poods (about 240,000 tons) of merchandise.

CHINA'S VIGILANCE.

China is renewing her vigilance to prevent attempts at escape by the cruiser Askold and the torpedo-boat destroyer Grosovoi, now dismantled at Shanghai.

INCREASED TAXATION IN RUSSIA.

In support of the families of reservists who are serving with the colours, the owners of houses in Russia are compelled to pay one-tenth of their rents, and the tax on landed proprietors has been increased by one-fourth.

CABLE TO THE CONSUL.

STORMING ERHLUNG-SHAN.

The Acting Consul-General for Japan (Mr. K. Iwasaki) last night received the following cablegram from Baron Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs at Tokio:—

"Our Port Arthur army reports:—The left centre of the army at 10 a.m. on Wednesday blew up the parapet in front of Erhlung-shan fort. Then, occupying the parapet by assault, they constructed defensive works under cover of our heavy guns and field guns, despite the enemy's fire. At 4 p.m. we assaulted and occupied the line of heavy guns in the interior of the fort, and by 7.30 p.m., after a stout resistance, the whole fort of Erhlung-shan had fallen into our hands."

COMMENTS ON THE SITUATION.

The principal item of this morning's war news is that which tells of the continued success of the besiegers at Port Arthur, through the capture of Ehrlungshan fort. This is another of the Kik-wan group of forts, which have already been described in this column, and is close to the railway line. Nothing is mentioned respecting casualties in the cablegram to the Japanese Consul, but, judging from the terrible slaughter accompanying every step that has hitherto been gained by the besieging force, it may reasonably be expected that fuller details of the assault will disclose further heavy losses of life on both sides. We are told that heavy lists have been published of casualties among the Japanese officers, and although it is suggested that these casualties were the result of the sinking of a cruiser through coming into contact with a mine, it seems a reasonable supposition that the serious losses referred to are connected with the more recent attacks upon Port Arthur. Later we shall probably be informed as to the number of casualties among the men. The resistance by the garrison in Ehrlungshan fort was as brave and stubborn as that shown by the defenders throughout the Titanic struggle; but where the conditions of the defence are limited and the besiegers possess vastly superior resources, the attacking party must inevitably succeed. The gallant Stoessel, who not long since was wounded by a fragment of shell, has again been injured—this time by a fall from his horse. It is to be hoped for the Russians' sake that the accident will not prove of a serious character, for Stoessel is the life and soul of the garrison. Some little time ago we heard of the indignant rejection by the General of terms of surrender offered him by a Japanese officer under a flag of truce. Particulars of this incident arrived by the English mail yesterday. A Russian lieutenant who witnessed the affair gives the following account of it:—"I wish you could have seen Stoessel at that moment. His face became quite purple, the blood boiling in his veins. We feared that he might have an apoplectic stroke, considering his corpulence. All at once he roared: 'Tell your General he had better study the history of the Russian people before making such idiotic proposals. The Russians only know death or victory, but not surrender. I forgive you your stupidity, but tell your comrades that if any of them again come with capitulation proposals they will be hanged at once.'"

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When the transport of Russian troops via the Trans-Siberian railway began many critics averred that the line would never stand the strain of very heavy traffic. That prediction has, of course, been falsified, for all the world knows the wonders that have been accomplished by Russia in connection with the transport of troops and supplies along that single line. Since the outbreak of the war early in the year the railway has carried, in addition to ordinary business, 537,000 men, 10,800 officers, 118,000 horses, and about 283,000 tons of supplies. As during the first four months of the year comparatively few troops were conveyed across Lake Baikal, the figures quoted represent the record of military business for about eight months, and, considering the immense disadvantages that any railway system must suffer during a time of war, the record is a good one. Prior to the war, however, a large volume of business was done by means of this railway. During the first five months in 1903, for instance, the Trans-Baikal line carried 319,000 passengers and 170,000 tons of merchandise, and the Siberian line conveyed 514,000 passengers and 420,000 tons of merchandise.

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The feeding of an army is always a subject of much interest. The following particulars of the manner in which the Russian troops in Manchuria are fed and clothed were given last month by General Gouber, head of the Russian Commissariat Department:—"Bread is distributed to the troops every day except on those days when military operations are in progress, when the men are supplied with biscuits instead. The Commissariat Department has at its disposal some tens of thousands of cattle, but up to the present the forces have not drawn upon the department in this respect, purchasing what cattle they require in the local markets. Orders have been given for a quantity of frozen meat to be prepared at Omsk. At Nikolaieff-on-the-Amur stores of fish have been prepared, as well as 300,000 poods (4800 tons) of butter. A hundred thousand poods (1600 tons) of preserved vegetables are being obtained from European Russia, while at Harbin and in the Usuri territory stores of sour-crout have been got ready for use in the hospitals and by soldiers suffering from illness. Tea is on sale at the front. At Blagovestchensk there are already nearly 4,000,000 poods (64,500 tons) of wheat which will be transferred to Harbin as soon as navigation is reopened. The troops are also allowed brandy, but only on special orders from the commanders of army corps. The Commissariat Department at present has in hand 200,000 complete sets of clothing and 400,000 pairs of boots. In January I am to receive a further 320,000 sets of clothing, and half a million pairs of boots; in February 180,000 complete outfits of clothing, and in March another half-million pairs of boots. In the spring it is proposed to replace the present outfits by woollen jerseys, to be worn under the tunic. The question of forage and fuel is a complicated one, for before long straw, wood, and kaoliang for warming purposes will all have to be brought from a distance, and yet there is no transport available for the purpose. Orders have been given for the distribution of 400,000 warm blankets for the use of the soldiers in the underground burrows they have made along the lines of the trenches. Officers get a daily allowance of a ppund of meat, 2lb of bread, ½lb of oatmeal, and portions of tea and sugar."

* * * * *

In connection with the announcement published yesterday regarding the Russian intention to bring the total of General Kuropatkin's troops up to 700,000, the following paragraph, which is but one of scores of similar messages from the Russian correspondents of English and American papers, may be read with interest. It is an extract from a St. Petersburg despatch dwelling upon the "extraordinary apathy and sadness" that characterise the Russian attitude towards the war:—"One paper tells of 200 reserve officers called out, but claiming exemption on account of sickness. The writer tells how, in spite of their plea, they were all found fit and had to serve. You can easily imagine if such reluctance prevails among the officers what the feeling is among the men. No, here there is no enthusiasm about the war. If there be any sentiment at all, it lies in a great hope that some big battle may take place of such a nature as to put an end to hostilities. Such is the frame of mind here among the masses that the people scarcely care who wins so long as the battle brings the war to an end."

THE BRITISH ARTILLERY.

IMMEDIATE REARMING.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The "Times" says that the War Office yesterday ordered of Vickers, Sons, and Maxim, Sir William Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., and others, a sufficient number of 18½ pounders (new quick-firers) to rearm the whole army.

The "Times" no doubt considers that the sudden decision of the Government to complete the rearming of the artillery with the new quickfirers is due to its leading article of December 15, denouncing the Treasury for its parsimony. In that article it pointed out that the Treasury had refused to find money for supplying the army with the new quickfirers, except for India, because India pays for them. "Moreover, the War Office, then newly constituted, discussed the selection of guns and lost nine months before finally reverting to the decision arrived at by the Artillery Committee presided over by Major-General Sir George Marshall. It is hoped that India will receive 21 batteries in 1905, and it is possible if work is begun in earnest in April to rearm the motherland and the colonies by 1907. Meanwhile we are not secure."

NAVAL REFORM.

LONDON, Dec. 28.

The modification of the Admiralty's plans in regard to Rosyth, on the north side of the Firth of Forth, making it only a subsidiary naval base, with a floating dock for repairs instead of a principal naval base, was due to the advice of Admiral Sir John Fisher, the First Sea Lord, that the available money should be used to replace obsolete vessels recently withdrawn from commission.

PREFERENTIAL TRADE.

WHAT AUSTRALIA DOES.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The "Times" in commenting upon the second Fiscal Blue Book recently issued says that when efforts are made to depreciate and belittle the indications shown by Australia of a willingness to grant a preference to the manufactures of the motherland it ought to be remembered that the average duty imposed by the Commonwealth on British goods is only 6 per cent., compared with 17 per cent. imposed by Canada under a preferential tariff.

MOROCCO AND FRANCE.

LONDON, Dec. 28.

The principal shereefs at Fez, fearing that the French had designs upon Morocco, demanded a rupture of the diplomatic relations existing between France and Morocco, the stoppage of the French mission to Fez, and the dismissal of the European military missions to the country.

The Sultan of Morocco has promised to comply with these demands.

The shereefs of Morocco are descendants of the Prophet Mohammed, and as such wield considerable influence in the Sultanate.

THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

LONDON, Dec. 28.

With respect to the undertaking entered into by China some time ago that, in return for concessions on the remission and calculation of interest, she would pay on a gold basis the whole international indemnity exacted from her by the Powers in 1901, Sir Ernest Satow, the British Minister at Peking, supports the action of China in resisting the attempt of three of the Powers to compel her to sign bonds for payment in gold, and then to require her to pay in silver at an arbitrary rate favouring Russian, French, and German banks.

Writing from Peking to the "Times" early in November, Dr. Morrison said:—"The vexed question of whether the international indemnity of 1901 is a gold debt, as all the Powers, with the exception of America, insist, or a silver debt, as China, supported by America, contends, is about to be resolved in favour of the view of the majority. Article 6 of the Protocol permits that payment of the interest upon the indemnity for the six months ended December 31, 1901, may be deferred till December 31, 1904. In connection with this payment China has made certain proposals. In return for the remission of the payment of interest on arrears, in return for calculating the rate of exchange at the average daily rate for the month instead of at the rate of the last day of the month only —a system which placed China at the mercy of rates arbitrarily imposed by the Bankers' Commission—such calculation to be retrospective and to apply to payments already made, and in return for crediting China with the interest on the proceeds paid monthly to the Bankers' Commission for the semi-annual payments of interest on the indemnity, China undertakes to pay the whole indemnity on a gold basis. Details are now being arranged and accounts submitted. In this question China has acted in a way that meets with general approval, especially when it is remembered that Niu-chwang, the most flourishing of her northern ports, has for the past four years been till recently in the possession of Russia, and that all the revenues of the port, amounting to 5,172,000 taels (about £647,000), have been appropriated by Russia, one of the Powers signatory to the Protocol, though these revenues were assigned as security for the payment of the general indemnity, and China, when she signed the Protocol, reasonably counted upon their collection. The Powers are certain to accept the proposals, which are unexpectedly favourable."

THE MURDER OF MR. FLEISCHER.

LONDON, Dec. 28.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has executed the murderer of Mr. Fleischer.

According to a Reuter's message from Peshawar on November 8, while Mr. Gottheld Fleischer, superintendent of the Ameer's arms factory, at Kabul, was proceeding to India, he was shot at Dakka by the dafadar of his guard. Mr. Fleischer, who was the only European resident at Kabul, was on his way to Peshawar to escort his family back to the Afghan capital. He first went to Kabul from Krupp's gun factory at Essen six years ago. He was a native of Loschwitz, near Dresden, and the son of a Lutheran clergyman. After receiving a present of Rs60,000 (£400) from the Ameer he went to Germany, and married, returning with his wife to Afghanistan. Two children were born in Kabul. At Christmas, 1902, owing to Mrs. Fleischer's health, she and her children left for India, being escorted from Kabul, at the request of the Ameer, by Mrs. Daly, the Afghan Government doctor. Mr. Fleischer was in India at the beginning of this year, and the danger of returning to Afghanistan was strongly urged upon him. He replied that he did not think the country was so unsettled, and decided to go back. On his last journey down from Kabul he expressed anxiety as to the condition of the road, and said that he did not feel safe until he reached the frontier at Lundi Kotal. He was again urged not to return, especially with his family, but he determined to risk it, as being a German he thought he was safer than an Englishman.

DISCONTENTED RUSSIA.

WHAT REFORMERS DEMAND.

PEACE AND FREEDOM.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

At the gathering of 650 journalists, professional men, and Decembrists at St. Petersburg on Monday the speakers included a director of the "Russ" newspaper, three socialist workmen, and the Mayor of Baku, where a great strike is now in progress.

A resolution was passed condemning the war with Japan as senseless and ruinous. Another resolution affirmed that only the deliberations of free representatives of the people elected by secret ballot on a principle of equal rights would be able to extricate Russia from the dangers which threaten her. "Our mottoes," the resolution adds, are "peace and freedom."

THE ZEMSTVOS' CONGRESS.

GOVERNMENT'S ACTION EFFECTIVE.

The Congress of Zemstvos of the Moscow Government has adjourned indefinitely because, it declares, the communique from the Imperial Government forbidding Zemstvos to meddle in affairs of State prevented calm discussion of the subjects before the meeting.

ACTIVITY OF THE NIHILISTS.

It is reported at Zurich, Switzerland, that the Nihilists are preparing for an unprecedentedly active campaign in Russia.

UNWILLING RESERVISTS.

ATTEMPT TO DESTROY A RAILWAY.

Advices from Lodz, Russian Poland, state that the great iron railway bridge at Pabianice, over the River Dobrzyuka, was undermined, the object being to destroy it and so prevent the transport of reserves to the front.

One mine exploded, but only slight damage was done to the bridge, while another was opportunely discovered. Explosives were also discovered elsewhere along the railway. The entire length of the line is now guarded.

CHIEF OF POLICE KILLED.

While the Chief of Police was walking along the main street of Schuscha, in the Caucasus, he was murdered. Seven shots were fired at him.

ENGLISH NURSE EXPELLED.

An English nurse who was employed by the Imperial family has been expelled from Russia on suspicion of espionage.

UNEMPLOYED IN ENGLAND.

THE TRADES' SUGGESTIONS.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The committees of the Trade Union Congress and the Federation of Trade Unions in their report on the want of employment urge a better distribution of employment in Government works so as to prevent the alternating rush and stagnation, an extension of the scheme of Mr. Walter Long, the President of the Local Government Board, from London to the provinces, and an extension of public works.

MACEDONIAN GENDARMERIE.

INCREASE OF POWERS' OFFICERS.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The Porte has conceded the demand of the Powers for the appointment of additional international officers to the gendarmerie of Macedonia.

The maximum number of foreign officers of the gendarmerie in Macedonia, it was stipulated, should be 25, but about the middle of the present year Austria and Russia demanded an increase. The Porte opposed the demand on the ground that it would be derogatory to Turkey's sovereign powers, and would prove an increased burden on the people.

LOSS FROM FOGS.

LOSS OF TEN MILLIONS.

LONDON, Dec. 28.

It is estimated that the fogs recently experienced in England resulted in a loss of £10,000,000.

ILLAWARRA IN COLLISION.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The ship Illawarra, 1896 tons, owned by Devitt and Moore, and bound for Adelaide and Melbourne, was in collision at Gravesend yesterday, and was damaged. Part of the cargo in the forehold has been discharged.

A confirmatory message was yesterday received by the Sydney Marine Underwriters' and Salvage Association, Limited. The Illawarra belongs to the well-known sailing ship line of Messrs. Devitt and Moore, and under Lord Brassey's scheme for the training of officers for the mercantile marine carries a number of apprentices, included among whom are several Australians.

SUNBEAM SOCIETY DINNER.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The Sunbeam Society of South Australia entertained 1500 children at its annual dinner at the People's Palace, London, yesterday. Sir John Cockburn and Mr. Sadlier spoke.

A COTTON SLUMP.

PRICES LOWEST FOR THREE YEARS.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

A slump has taken place in cotton in New York. The price sank to the lowest of three years, on the ginners' report of a crop of 12,500,000 bales.

TASMANIA.

LAUNCESTON, Thursday.

The Wakatipu shipped at Devonport 102 bags oats, 105 bags potatoes, 18 bags peas, 12 bags barley, and 123 bales straw for Sydney.

A SURVEYOR DROWNED.

TOCUMWAL, Thursday.

Mr. P. J. M'Namara, aged 23, a surveyor, who was visiting Tocumwal to make surveys in connection with the Tocumwal-Strathmerton railway, was accidentally drowned in the Murray, near Tocumwal bridge, whilst bathing early on Monday morning. The body was recovered yesterday and interred in the local cemetery last evening. Deceased came recently from Melbourne. His parents reside at Loongatha, Gippsland, Victoria.

ARNOTT'S MILK ARROWROOTS

is more suitable food for children than all the rich stuff they usually are supposed to digest at Christmas.—Advt.

This week's "Mail" has a humorous story, with illustration, entitled "The Silk Hat."—Advt.

SECOND EDITION

SILVER.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

The silver market appreciably hardened today. The price of bars is 2s 4¼d, ¼d higher than yesterday.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN RIFLE MEETING.

LAKE WINS THE KING'S.

PERTH, Thursday.

The National Rifle Association's annual meeting was continued at Karrakatta to-day. The firing for the King's prize was completed, the shooting resulting in a tie between J. Grummett (Vic.) and J. T. Lake (S.A.), with 200 each. In the shoot-off Lake won. Warrant-officer Whitehead (Vic.) obtained fifth prize, W. Cutler, of New South Wales, sixth, S. Edwards (N.S.W.) seventh, M. Tessimond (N.S.W.) ninth, and W. G. Willoughby (Vic.) thirteenth.

The grand champion aggregate was won by J. T. Lake (S.A.), with 395 out of a possible 410. W. Cutler (N.S.W.) was third, Whitehead (Vic.) fourth, Willoughby (Vic.) fifth, Edwards (N.S.W.) seventh, R. C. Dawson (N.S.W.) eighth. The members' match resulted in a tie between R. Burr (Vic.), W. G. Willoughby (Vic.), and J. T. Lake (S.A.), with 47 each out of a possible 50.

VICTORIA.

COMPETITION IN THE COAL TRADE.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

Speaking to-day at the ordinary general meeting of the Outtrim Howitt Coal Company, the chairman, Mr. R. B. Stamp, said the price of coal had by reason of competition become gradually reduced, and there was a cut-throat conflict at present in Melbourne. Unfortunately for those present, the two parties in competitive conflict had selected Victoria as their battle-ground, and with the coal contract accepted by the Government at 10s 5d. a ton they could understand how keen the underselling was. It was a ridiculous price to sell coal at, especially when it was remembered that the price at the pit's mouth in New South Wales was 9s a ton. Coal was cheaper here than in Sydney. At those prices there was no doubt as to a "combine," but as against this and other difficulties the Outtrim Company had more than held its own. They had not, however, been able to declare a dividend, but that he hoped would be forthcoming soon.

THE WRECKED STEAMER AUSTRALIA.

ATTEMPT AT REFLOATING.

Mr. J. G. Aikman, M.L.C., a member of the syndicate engaged in the attempt to refloat the R.M.S. Australia, said to-day that operations were progressing favourably, and that by about the middle of January he would know whether the vessel could be refloated and brought into port. The steamer Federal, which had been chartered from a Sydney firm, was expected to arrive here shortly with the necessary gear, including powerful pumps. Meantime divers are at work patching up holes in the hull and covering them with concrete. When this is completed the pumping plant will be set to work removing the water from the compartments, and this, it is believed, will cause the vessel to rise off the rocks.

BUSH FIRES IN THE STATE.

The hot weather of the past fortnight, following upon nearly two months of dry weather, has caused outbreaks of bush fires in different parts of the country, and a considerable area has been swept by flames. The damage has been confined mainly to the destruction of grass and fencing, but in some few cases buildings also were destroyed. Rain is badly needed.

At the inquest to-day concerning the death of Archibald Boyd, an old man, whose nude body was found under a bed in his home at Williamstown yesterday, medical evidence was tendered that death was due to natural cause. The inquest was adjourned.

QUEENSLAND.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

BRISBANE, Thursday.

The Parliament will be opened on Wednesday next with a speech from the Lieutenant-Governor, but as only electoral matters are to be dealt with it is presumed that the Speech will be short. It is not proposed to have any Address-in-Reply.

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS.

Instructions have been issued to commence the new railways authorised by Parliament. It is expected that at an early date work on the Degilbo to Wetheron line will be started. Both lines are to be built by day labour.

The committee of the Kennedy Hospital, Boven, has written to the Treasurer stating that owing to the reduction of the endowment and to the want of funds it had been decided to close the institution.

Mr. John D. Bergin, J.P., an old resident of Queensland, died last night.

CYCLONE AT KALGOORLIE.

GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

KALGOORLIE, Thursday.

A terrific rainstorm, travelling practically in the same direction, and almost equally with the force of that which caused so much damage to and destruction of Kalgoorlie-Boulder properties 12 months ago, swept over the district this afternoon. It was preceded by clouds of blinding dust, and accompanied with torrents of rain. The storm burst with cyclonic force upon Kalgoorlie shortly before 4 o'clock, and, moving from north to south, quickly found out the weak spots of anything that stood in its path. Sheets of iron were torn off numerous buildings by the first gust of wind, and by the time the cyclone was raging at its height the air seemed to be full of all sorts of debris, being whirled about like so many feathers. A large but frailly built wood and iron structure, known as His Excellency's Theatre, and for which some trouble lately had been experienced by the owners in getting a license, fell an easy prey to the storm, as it collapsed like a pack of cards directly the wind struck it. An unoccupied building near, formerly used as a furniture warehouse, was also run to the ground. Many other buildings, including the "Worker" office, Union Brewery, Drill Hall, and Hannan's Club, were partially unroofed, while the verandahs of many premises and the business portion of the town suffered damage from the elements. In the case of the Mt. Lyell Hotel, portions were demolished. The verandahs were lifted bodily by the force of the wind, and deposited on the roof of the second story. Dozens of private dwellings in the residential portion of the town also suffered, a number being overturned, and in a few cases transformed into confused heaps of splintered wood, twisted iron, and torn hessian. Several hairbreadth escapes from injuries were reported, but so far as could be ascertained no accidents were recorded. The centre of the storm passed to the east of Boulder City, and did some damage to the mining camp in the vicinity of Kamballie. Beyond, however, dismantling roofs and levelling outhouses, not much destruction was wrought by it. A large building that was being removed on a jinker from Boulder City felt the force of the storm and collapsed whilst in course of being conveyed to the large leaching tank on the Associated Northern. Little damage appears to be done by the storm along the Golden Mile, but it is impossible at present to accurately gauge the amount of monetary damage done to property, but it may safely be computed at several thousands of pounds.

R.M.S. INDIA AT FREMANTLE.

FREMANTLE, Thursday.

The P. and O. Company's steamer India arrived today from London and ports, one day late, owing to stormy weather at Colombo. She brings the following passengers:—

For Adelaide: Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, 3 daughters and a son, Mr. J. Entwisle.

For Melbourne: Mr. Mrs. and Miss Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Heatherington, Mr. and Mrs. P. Hyams and infant, Mrs. and Miss Brodribb, Mrs. R. J. Casey and son, Frail, Miss Clude, Messrs. A. C. Weaver, J. Featherstonhaugh, E. P. Davis, W. J. Carr, Riddel, F. W. Baibley, F. Palmer, Connibere.

For Sydney: Mr. and Mrs. Timson and infant, Captain and Mrs. Hislop, Mr. and Mrs. J. Newman, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Touch, Mr. and Mrs. E. Lloyd Jones, Mesdames V. Moore Tickle son and maid, Nesbit, Misses Oliver, Commander N. L. Dent, Messrs. P. J. Coombe, G. H. Cruttenden, W. P. Faithfully, Newson, H. A. Willis, W. F. Croft, T. C. Lyons, T. M'Carthy, J. M'Glashan, C. E. Napier, E. W. Tickette, R. H. Millar, C. H. Miller, W. Gibson, E. Merickl, C. C. Gibb, W. C. Harrild.

For New Zealand: Mrs. S. R. Platts, Mrs. and Miss Govett, Miss Scarr, Mr. L. J. Coombe, Mrs. W. J. Schannon, Mr. and Mrs. A. Birch and son, Messrs. F. Pardoe, D. J. Napier, J. C. Buckingham.

For Hobart: Mrs. Clayton Line.

The India also brings 49 in all classes for various ports.

HOLIDAYS.

and all the children at home. Keep a tin in the house of ARNOTT'S MILK ARROWROOTS, the children's Biscuits.—Advt.

BUSH FIRES.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

SOME SENSATIONAL INCIDENTS.

A RACE WITH THE FLAMES.

GUNDAGAI, Thursday.

Further particulars of the bush fire at Adelong Crossing show that all the small settlers lost all their grass and much fencing. Mr. W. Manns, sen., lost 300 acres of grass, and the fire also ran right down his standing wheat crop, burning it for a chain wide, and it caught several stacks of hay, but the beaters saved them. Mr. Alfred Clarke's homestead was swept clean. Mr. Clarke was absent when the fire took place.

A woman in charge of children put them into a cart and raced the flames for a distance of a mile, eventually reaching a place of safety.

Mr. George Lewis lost all his grass and his young orchard, 50 trees being destroyed.

Mr. William Andrews saved his wheat crop, the fire burning right on the fringe of it.

Mr. George Brice lost all his grass. The fire swept up to the back door and raced between the house and a haystack.

Mr. A. Scott lost the whole of his wheat crop. The fire here ran through a garden and up to the houses.

Mr. W. Jamieson, jun., lost 70 out of 90 acres of standing crop and all his grass.

Mr. Robert Andrews had just got his wheat stripped and carted in when the flames ran through the stubble.

The old Victoria mill was threatened for some time, the fire burning close to it.

Nearly all the settlers have only been for 12 months in occupation of the holdings, and are poor men.

Miles of country have been burned. The place presents a desolate appearance.

GOULBURN, Thursday.

A bush fire at Kingsdale yesterday destroyed a considerable quantity of grass. Telegraph poles and portions of fencing were charred. The progress of the fire was checked, but to-day it is still burning in places. Dense clouds of smoke hanging over Cookbundoon Range can be seen from the town.

LISMORE, Thursday.

A considerable area of sugarcane has been burnt. The Broadwater mill having concluded, none of the damaged cane can be utilised.

LIVERPOOL, Thursday.

Bush fires have raged near town and at Morebank during the past few days, but no damage to property has so far been reported.

MOSS VALE, Thursday.

The town has been enveloped in smoke from bush fires in the neighbourhood.

WAGGA, Thursday.

The bush fire which broke out at Harefield on Christmas Eve burnt a considerable amount of grass on several properties, including Wantabadgery, Oura, Kurrajong, Eunonyhareenyha. There were several smaller fires around the district.

WEST MAITLAND, Thursday.

Bush fires are raging on the hills to the south and west of the town.

A HEAT WAVE.

EXCESSIVE TEMPERATURES IN THE INTERIOR.

OPPRESSIVE DAY IN THE CITY.

THICK HAZE ON THE COAST.

A STRONG SOUTHERLY BLOW.

Intense heat was experienced in the inland districts yesterday, the temperatures recorded over a very large area of the State being the highest registered for several years. Quite a number of stations report maximum shade readings of 110, while at Bourke the thermometer registered 113. Even at Cooma the temperature was upwards of 104, the highest reading at that centre for many years. Our correspondents in various parts of the State unite in describing the day as the hottest of the present season.

The masters of vessels which arrived at Sydney yesterday state that a thick haze envelopes the coastline. It first made its appearance during the early hours of yesterday morning, and foretold the approach of excessive heat. According to the coastal reports issued last night, hazy conditions still prevail along a considerable portion of the seaboard.

Among the highest registrations reported to the Observatory last evening were the following:—

	Deg.		Deg.
Bourke	113	Wilcannia	108
Hay	110	Albury	107
Hillston	110	Deniliquin	107
Wagga	110	Wentworth	105
Condobolin	110	Bathurst	101
Cobar	110	Goulburn	98
Dubbo	110	Mount Victoria	97
Forbes	109	Coonabarabran	95
Broken Hill	108	Armidale	92
Walgett	108	Cooma	90

In the city the weather conditions during the whole day were very oppressive, although the maximum temperature recorded was only 90 degrees. The southerly, which was reported to be travelling along the coast, was anxiously awaited, but it did not reach the city until late in the afternoon. Moruya at 11 o'clock in the morning advised that a moderate southerly gale was blowing, and Jervis Bay reported that a moderate south-easterly gale sprang up at 2.15 p.m.

At Sydney the wind, which had been from the direction of north-east during the day, suddenly changed at 3.15 p.m. to the south-south-east, and blew fairly strong. The wind continued to increase in force until it attained the force of half a gale. The highest velocity recorded was 30 miles an hour at 7.29 p.m. During the course of the evening the wind moderated considerably.

INTERVIEW WITH THE METEOROLOGIST.

INTENSE HEAT RADIATION.

Mr. H. A. Hunt, the Acting Government Meteorologist, upon being seen last night said:—"Intense heat radiation continues over the central parts of the continent. The temperatures at 9 a.m. to-day ranged on the overland lines from 90 to 100 degrees. The ascending currents in the interior, due to this persistent heat, have resulted in a reduction of atmospheric pressure over this region, and the barometer at Alice Springs has dropped to 29.72. A depression having formed on the mainland the surface winds are naturally flowing inland from the sea.

"Barometers have fallen generally over New South Wales, particularly in the north-eastern districts, but have risen in Victoria and Tasmania. This change in pressure balance is bringing cool southerly winds along our seaboard, but the difference is not sufficiently great to maintain for long a circulation from that direction. Conditions generally point to a continuance of hot weather inland, with northerly winds, veering temporarily to cool southerly on the coast and near the southern border."

HIGH TEMPERATURES.

ALBURY.—Great heat prevailed on Thursday. The sun was partly obscured by clouds, but a withering hot wind kept the temperature high all day. At 3 p.m. the reading was 105deg in the shade, being the highest for the summer.

BROKEN HILL.—The weather on Thursday was very hot, but the absence of dust made it fairly bearable. The highest official shade temperature was 106deg, although some thermometers recorded a couple of degrees higher.

CARCOAR.—Thursday was the hottest day experienced during the present summer, the temperature registering 98deg.

CONDOBOLIN.—Thursday was the hottest day experienced for the past two years. The shade temperature was 110deg.

COOMA.—Thursday was the hottest day experienced for several years, the maximum being 104.5deg in the shade. At 9 a.m. the thermometer showed 94deg, which is a record for that time of the day.

COWRA.—Thursday was the hottest day experienced this season. The shade temperature at the post-office was 108deg.

GERMANTON.—The weather was exceptionally trying on Thursday, with hot winds. The maximum reading was 100deg.

GUYRA.—The weather was excessively hot on Thursday, 90deg being registered.

HAY.—Thursday was the hottest day of this summer, the official thermometer registering 110deg.

LIVERPOOL.—The heat has been excessive during the past few days. The thermometer ranged from 90 to 92 deg. at midday on Thursday.

MILLTHORPE.—The temperature has been oppressive during the last few days, culminating on Thursday in 93deg, the hottest day this year.

PARKES.—Thursday was the hottest day so far this summer. The temperature was 102 in the shade at 1 p.m.

WAGGA.—The weather during the past few days has been exceptionally trying, the temperature varying from 96 to 111 on Thursday, which was the hottest day this summer.

WEST MAITLAND.—Intense heat prevailed on Thursday, the maximum register in the shade being 103deg.

WISEMAN'S FERRY.—Abnormal heat has been experienced here this week. On Monday, and again on Thursday, the thermometer registered 106deg in the shade.

STATION REPORTS.

Messrs. Gibbs, Bright, and Co. have received the following telegraphic report of rainfalls:—Mulurulu station, Balranald (N.S.W.), December 23: "Ninety-six points rain 17th; very patchy."

FATALITY IN A TIMBER YARD.

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.

Albert Miller, aged 45, employed at Sharp's timber yards, South Melbourne, met with a shocking death to-day. He was in the act of shifting some pieces of timber on one stack when he inadvertently disturbed the foundation of an adjoining stack, and before he could jump aside a mass of heavy joists came tumbling upon him. One piece was knocked forward as it fell, and was propelled with tremendous force like a battering ram against Miller's abdomen. The pelvis was fractured, and the whole lower part of his trunk was crushed.

ABOLITION OF CIRCUIT COURTS.

THE BROKEN HILL COMPLAINT.

STATEMENT BY THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

It was quite evident from the attitude of the Attorney-General yesterday, that he was not in the least surprised that his decision abolishing Circuit Courts at certain places had been received with disfavour by members of the legal profession in the particular places affected. Mr. C. G. Wade remarked yesterday to a "Herald" representative that when economic reforms were instituted, there were always to be found people who were strong advocates of retrenchment, so long as it did not affect them. The attention of the Attorney-General was drawn to the fact that the members of the legal profession at Broken Hill, as well as the stipendiary magistrate stationed there, had spoken in condemnation of the abolition of the Circuit Court held in that town.

Mr. Wade remarked: "When I came to deal with the arrangements for the Circuit Court work for the coming year, both in regard to the Supreme Court and Quarter Sessions, I was struck by the number of instances in which the expense was out of all proportion to the amount of business transacted at the court. I therefore decided in certain cases to reduce the number of Court sittings during the ensuing year, and, in others, to discontinue the Court entirely. Of the Supreme Court circuit towns, Broken Hill, Mudgee, and Young will be no more. From figures which have been obtained, it appears that the volume of work at these courts during the last two years was as follows:—

Broken Hill, 1903-1904, criminal cases	33
Mudgee, 1903-1904, criminal cases	8
Young, 1903-1904, criminal cases	14

Of the 33 cases set down for hearing at Broken Hill during the two years mentioned, 25 could have been tried before the Court of Quarter Sessions. The same tribunal could have dealt with seven out of the eight cases at

GREATER SYDNEY.

THE PROPOSED ABSORPTION OF CAMPERDOWN.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION.

The City Council, sitting as a general purposes committee, met yesterday at noon, to consider a minute submitted by the retiring Lord Mayor (Alderman Lees) in connection with the proposal to absorb the borough of Camperdown. At a former meeting a motion was tabled by Alderman Hughes, that in the opinion of the committee it was desirable to amalgamate the borough with the city, on condition that the laws relating to the city should apply to the enlarged area; that negotiations should be entered into with the creditors of the borough; that if satisfactory terms could be arranged debentures of the City of Sydney should be issued for payment of the amount required, and an additional £10,000 for the immediate requirements of the borough to put the streets in reasonable repair, the debentures to bear interest at 4 per cent. per annum, and to be repayable in 25 years, with power to renew for a similar period; that a sinking fund for repayment of the debentures in 50 years should be established on a 3 per cent. basis; that the borough should, on amalgamation, be created a ward, with two representatives in the council, and rated on the same scale as the rest of the city; and that the Government should be asked to introduce the necessary legislation.

An amendment to this was moved by Alderman M'Elhone, that consideration should be deferred, and negotiations entered into with the existing debenture holders with a view to ascertaining if any arrangements could be made whereby they would be willing to compromise and accept a certain sum, to be determined upon, in liquidation of the amount due in respect to principal and accrued interest, and that a referendum of the ratepayers of Camperdown and the city should be taken.

Notice was given by Alderman Henley that he would move, as an addition to the motion of Alderman Hughes, "and providing that the Australian Joint Stock Bank will, in payment of its debts as may be agreed upon, hand over to this council the Camperdown Town Hall buildings, purchased by them."

The debate on the above motions was adjourned, and in the meantime negotiations have taken place between the borough creditors and the Lord Mayor, whose minute submitted yesterday was as follows:—

"In accordance with the desire expressed by the general purpose committee, a conference of debenture holders and judgment creditors was convened in October last, when the position was fully considered and debated. The amount due to debenture holders is given as £15,500, and to judgment creditors as £7100 18s 9d. Those attending the conference represented £5300 due to debenture holders and £6784 due to judgment creditors. The representatives of the debenture holders, after a private conference, intimated that those present would be willing to recommend their respective clients to accept City Council debentures bearing interest at 4 per cent., the amount upon which interest is to be paid to be the amount of the debentures now held and accruing interest to date. The representative of the principal judgment creditor, the Australian Joint Stock Bank, Limited, intimated that he would recommend his principals to agree to a reduction of their claim to the extent of £981 10s 11d. Subsequently communications were addressed to the debenture holders and judgment creditors intimating that in the event of their being willing to accept a composition of 15s in the £ in respect of their claim, I would be prepared to recommend the same to the council for adoption. The general tenor of the replies received showed that the suggestion was not favourably entertained, and this being so I am of opinion that the bond holders and judgment creditors have missed an opportunity of promoting their own interests and by doing so retarded the possible consummation of a step towards a Greater Sydney. I cannot, therefore, recommend the council to proceed any further in the matter."

Alderman Norton, in a long speech, criticised the reports that had been made regarding the borough and the financial aspect of the scheme. He expressed himself strongly in favour of a Greater Sydney, and if the council was not prepared to take over the borough at the present juncture he was doubtful about what the conditions would be in the future. The general argument, he said, was that the proposition to take in the borough was well worth considering, but he was of opinion that all the information that was necessary was not before the council in order to allow a definite decision to be come to. He was certain it was a good bargain, and he hoped that further consideration would be given to the question. He thought that the aldermen should make themselves personally acquainted with the condition of the place.

Alderman Hughes, for the benefit of the new aldermen, went into details of the financial aspect of the proposal. The total liabilities amounted to £25,000, so that at the highest amount that would have to be paid they could buy the borough for that sum.

Alderman Norton said that if he could get a bill passed by Parliament for £50,000 he would pay it to-morrow.

Alderman Hughes scouted the idea that £50,000 was wanted to be spent in the next five years on Camperdown.

Alderman Taylor: What I want is £25,000.

Alderman Hughes: What I want is to take the whole borough as it stands. Don't let us throw the whole thing over, and give the city the biggest setback it has ever had. He hoped, with all due respect to the Lord Mayor, that the minute would not be adopted.

The Lord Mayor explained that he had simply submitted the minute with the hope that it would be fully considered. He did not ask them to adopt it, but knowing the feelings of the bondholders and the tenor of the debates, he had felt it incumbent upon him to place the matter before the council before retiring from office. He was strongly in favour of the absorption of the borough, and would be glad to be present next year to discuss with them the most important matter that had ever come before them.

In order to allow of further consideration, and to enable the aldermen to personally inspect the borough, the debate was adjourned to another meeting, to be convened within a fortnight.

THE WOOL EXHIBITION.

The attractions of the wool exhibition at the Royal Exchange have directed the attention of woolgrowers residing in the other States thereto, and the interest in the exhibits continues to increase. Mr. C. H. Hayes, the secretary, has received letters from pastoralists who have not seen the exhibition stating that the reports of it which have reached them are most flattering, and a deep impression has been made on those who have seen it. It is admitted that never before has the great staple of the country been so well displayed. In order to meet the wishes of Victorians and others who will be in Sydney next week, it has been decided that the exhibition shall remain open until January 7. The public are reminded that no entry fee is made for admission. Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort, and Co., Ltd., show samples of wool and mohair from all parts of the world. With the exception of some black fleeces, all the wool produced in Australia is white. But in one of the cases white is found the exception. Under the heading of East India there are grey, fawn, brown, yellow, and greyish-white wools. China and Tibet—brown in shades (some as coarse as hair), also white cashmere. Persia—Greyish-white, Karadi, fawn, grey, black, brown, and white cashmere. Turkey—Angora. Russia—Black, grey, greyish-white, Bokhara, and cashmere, also camel-hair. South America—Islay, alpaca, brown, grey, and black. Another case shows the wools from Peru, Chili, Argentina, Western Cape, Natal, Kaffraria. North America, Germany, England, and from North Africa, black, brown, and white, llama, and vicuna. The New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited, and Messrs. Pitt, Son, and Badgery, Limited, also make a good display with wool in cases. The educational character of the exhibition owes much to the exhibits from the Technical College. There are also pagodas of scoured wools and samples of woollen goods.

AMUSEMENTS.

BIOSCOPE ENTERTAINMENT.

There was again a good house at the bioscope entertainment at the Centenary Hall last night. Some new films were shown in addition to the main films that have been exhibited each evening. Miss Elsie Peerless and Mr. J. Hirchy were appointed for their vocal numbers. To-night, which is the last of the series, the assisting artists will be Miss Heloise Austa and "Boda Pada," the Indian conjuror.

CONCERT AT SYDNEY HOSPITAL.

On Wednesday night, at the Sydney Hospital, the Euterpean Quartet, under Mr. Griffen Foley, gave a New Year's concert to the patients and staff. The quartet was assisted by Miss Ruby Rich, Mrs. G. Foley, Miss Eva Buckland, and Miss Hall. In addition to part-songs suitable for the occasion, the members of the quartet, Messrs. D. Binskki, Lanman, and Foley, were heard in solos. Mr. J. Chamberlain was the accompanist.

SYDNEY LABOUR COUNCIL.

At last night's meeting of the Sydney Labour Council, a letter was received from the Sugar Workers' Union, withdrawing from the Sydney Labour Council. The resignations of the two delegates of that body, Messrs. Ha Iday and Lane, were also tendered. Mr. Halliday explained the events leading up to the formation of the union, and also to the withdrawal from the council. The resignations were accepted with regret, and it was decided to record the council's high appreciation of the good work done by Messrs. Lane and Halliday in the cause of unionism.

NEWCASTLE.

THE COAL EXPORT TRADE.

NEWCASTLE, Thursday.

The following vessels cleared at the Customs yesterday and during the holidays:—The steamer Nineveh, for London via Sydney, with 11,541 carcases of mutton, 100 boxes sheep's kidneys, 201 haunches of mutton, 760 bales of wool, and 103 tons of bullion; the steamer Futala for Bombay, via Brisbane, with 91 horses; the ship Latimer, for Mauritius, with 2645 tons of Co-operative coal; the steamer Brisbane, for Lyttelton, with 1385 tons of coal; the steamer Barrier, for Melbourne, with 2920 tons of coal; and the four-masted barque Howth, for Valparaiso, with 3620 tons of Messrs. Brown's coal.

There were eleven ships in harbour yesterday loading or to load for foreign ports, seven being for the West Coast, two for Honolulu, one for San Francisco, and one for Manila. Of these six were loading for Messrs. Brown's collieries, three for Wallsend, one for the Caledonian Company, and one for Lambton.

The steamer Mintaro cleared at the Customs to-day for Adelaide with 2200 tons of coal, and the steamer Koorlinga for Fremantle with 5000 tons. The steamer Barrier sailed to-day for Melbourne with 2920 tons of coal, and steamer Brisbane for Lyttelton with 1385 tons, and the ship Latimer for Mauritius with 2645 tons of Co-operative coal.

THE HOLIDAY TRAMWAY TRAFFIC.

The Newcastle Tramway traffic showed a falling off for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day as compared with the same three days of last year, mainly due to the fact that Christmas Day occurred on a Sunday. The returns for Christmas Eve, however, show an increase of 4199 in the number of passengers carried. On Boxing Day there was a decrease of 2825 passengers carried, and on Christmas Day 10,344 less fares were collected. The total decrease in the number of passengers for the three days referred to was 8970. The following are the comparative figures of the fares collected:—For 1903: Christmas Eve, 20,641; Christmas Day, 22,941; Boxing Day, 46,941; total, 103,572. For 1904: Christmas Eve, 43,840; Christmas Day, 12,647; Boxing Day, 33,116; total passengers, 94,603. The difference in receipts this year was £55 12s 8d.

CASUALTIES AND FATALITIES.

CARBOLIC ACID POISONING.

Yesterday afternoon Harriet Parlie, 17, residing in Kingsclear-road, Botany, was conveyed to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital by Constable Hill, suffering from the effects of carbolic acid poisoning. She was admitted for treatment.

AN ELDERLY MAN DROWNED.

The body of a man, subsequently identified as that of James Byrnes, aged 63 years, was found floating in Darling Harbour last evening. The body was recovered by a man named Arthur Rosebray, who procured a boat and brought it on shore. It was subsequently removed to the North Morgue by Constable Ellis. The deceased was employed as caretaker of a hulk lying a few feet from the Darling Island Wharf, and owned by the Southern Coal Agency. Owing to his age Byrnes had to be assisted from the ship to the wharf, and it is surmised by the police that he fell into the water in endeavouring to return to the hulk. He resided in Gloucester-street, Miller's Point.

KILLED BY MACHINERY.

QUEENSTOWN (Tas.), Thursday.

Arthur Tibballs, aged 17, employed at the Lyell Blocks mill, while attending to the Frue vanners this morning, was caught by his clothing and crushed between the driving shaft and the machine. He was released as soon as possible, but was dead when extricated.

DOUBLE DROWNING ACCIDENT.

HILLGROVE, Thursday.

Misses Nellie Gardiner, 18, and Fanny Kennedy, 12, were drowned whilst bathing this evening in the Wollombombi River. Mrs. Snape, wife of the landlord of the Wollombombi Hotel, attempted to rescue the drowning girls and almost lost her own life in the attempt.

CHILD BURNT TO DEATH.

BALLINA, Thursday.

Alma Lewis, 5 years old, daughter of Mr. Frederick Lewis, a farm hand, resident here, was burned to death last evening. The little one, who wore a flannelette dress, was playing with the fire. The only portion of her body not burnt was her legs, which were covered with cashmere socks. A large number of similar fatalities have occurred during the current year.

FALL FROM A BRIDGE.

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.

Albert Smith, aged 18, was seriously injured to-day by a fall from a footbridge over the Merri Creek, at Northcote. The bridge is being repaired, and at one point has been removed, leaving a large opening. Smith did not notice the hole and stepped into it, dropping through the joists into the bed of Merri Creek, 25 feet below. Happily he fell directly over the pool of water, and this to some extent broke his fall. He is suffering from severe shock and injury to his spine.

A GRAZIER DROWNED.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

A sad fatality occurred yesterday at Barham, on the New South Wales side of the Murray, opposite Koondook. Mr. R. Stephens, a grazier holding land near the Wakool River, was out with a party duck shooting. The members of the party had spread, and Mr. Stephens, who was with one companion, shot two ducks, which fell in the Murray. Not having any dog he waded in to recover the ducks, which were near the shore, and when nearly within reach of them Mr. Stephens's foot caught in a snag and he fell forward into deep water. Neither Mr. Stephens nor his friend could swim, but the latter endeavoured to reach the drowning man by wading in, but the attempt was unsuccessful. With a long pole cut from a tree on the bank another effort was made. The pole was of sufficient length to reach Mr. Stephens, but he was then too exhausted to seize it, and he sank. His body was subsequently recovered by means of drags. The deceased was 41 years of age.

ALBURY, Thursday.

Mark Howarth, an old district fisherman, was found dead in his tent yesterday. For several years Howarth was located on the Murray, near the boiling down works, carrying on his vocation with the aid of a boat.

BRISBANE, Thursday.

The five-year-old daughter of Mr. Kibbe, a carrier, was accidentally drowned in Cooyar Creek, near Toowoomba, to-day.

CUDAL, Thursday.

A lad was thrown off a horse and sustained a bad fracture of one arm. A doctor had to be obtained from Orange to set the limb. A resident medical man is much needed here.

GUNDAGAI, Thursday.

Herbert Manns, a youth, was accidentally stabbed in the back by a youngster brother while skylarking at Adelong Crossing, and was taken to the hospital. The wound is serious.

GUYRA, Thursday.

Sullivan, a young man employed at Starr's new hotel, met with a serious accident to-day. Whilst putting a beam in position the rope broke, and rebounding struck him in the back. He was taken to the Armidale Hospital.

LIVERPOOL, Thursday.

A magisterial inquiry has been held into the cause of death of S. Norris, aged nine years, whose body was found in George's River, above the dam, on Boxing Day. A finding of found drowned was recorded.

CUSTOMS INQUIRIES.

The Acting Collector of Customs (Mr. J. Baxter) yesterday inquired into cases of alleged breaches of the Customs regulations. The papers will be forwarded to the Minister for direction.

J. M'Mahon and Co., carriers, had to answer a complaint that they had neglected to immediately convey goods to bond. On the evening of December 6 a carter employed by the firm loaded goods, and was told to take them straight to bond. He, however, took them to Darling Harbour, where they remained for the night, and were delivered to bond next day. The Customs Act provides that goods shall be dealt with forthwith in accordance with the entry.

The Gourock Ropework Company, Ltd., had to answer a complaint of a false declaration having been made on an interstate entry, viz., that the consuming State was entitled to £2 1s duty in excess of the correct amount. New South Wales would have suffered to amount. that extent if the entry had been finally accepted.

W. Parkes, hotelkeeper, Forbes; W. W. Millett, E. W. Parkes, hotelkeeper, Forbes; W. W. Millett, E. J. Randall, A. E. Southwick, J. Gossage, hotelkeepers, and Mudgee; F. C. Lamotte, hotelkeeper, Coonamble; and T. H. Marks and Co., storekeepers, Mudgee, were called upon to explain the omission to cancel beer duty stamps. All the hotelkeepers said that the omission was due to an oversight. On behalf of T. H. Marks and Co. it was stated that the case of beer involved had been opened last year for the purchaser by means of drags. The deceased was 41 years of age.

The case was dismissed.

RIFLE SHOOTING.

GOULBURN, Thursday.

The result of the holiday competition of the C. Company Rifle Club was as follows:—Trooper Baxter, 75 points; Bugler Wright, 68; Private Fowler, 68; Private Fielding, 63; Private Cooper, 61; Trooper Bernard, 60; Sergeant Beasley, 59; Trooper Morris (scratch), 59; Private Grunewell, 59; Rec. McDougall, 58; Corporal Cameron, 57; Lieutenant Fitzgerald (scratch), 56; Trooper Nicholls, 55; Staff Colour-Sergeant Duke, 55; Private Cameron, 55.

COUNTRY NEWS.

MUNICIPAL.

BROKEN HILL, Thursday.

At last night's council meeting the question of wages paid to corporation labourers was discussed. The matter has been a cause of much dissension amongst aldermen for some time. It was decided that the previous resolution of the council, fixing the wages for council labourers at 8s 4d per day, be rescinded, and that the minimum wage be 9s per day of eight hours.

The dispute between the council and the Mechanics' Institute is likely to be satisfactorily settled. At last night's meeting of the library committee a recommendation that the council vote £300, in consideration of the Mechanics' Institute committee relinquishing all claims they might have on the council, and that they vacate the room now occupied by them within six calendar months from date, or a rental of £2 per week to be afterwards charged, came on for discussion. It was resolved that the library committee with Alderman Devitt be given full power to meet the Mechanics' Institute committee and act.

A.O.O. FORESTERS.

LISMORE, Thursday.

A new court of the Ancient Order of Foresters, to be known as the Court Star of Lismore, No. 9036, has been opened here by officers of the Sydney district, assisted by officers and members of the Star of the North, Grafton court. A number of candidates were initiated. Bro. J. Buchanan was elected as the first Chief Ranger, and Bro. Geo. H. Bayldon as the secretary.

BROKEN HILL, Thursday.

Two cases of alleged street betting were heard to-day at the police court, the offenders being Harry Couch, 22, and Thomas Conroy, 26. After hearing arguments, the magistrate found the cases proved against both, and Conroy was fined £25, or six months' imprisonment, and Couch £10, or four months' imprisonment. A stay of proceedings was granted to allow of an application for a Supreme Court prohibition.

LISMORE, Thursday.

The gate receipts at the Caledonian sports on Boxing Day and for the evening amounted to £250, making the total revenue in connection with the sports £350, constituting a record for the society.

OUR MILK SUPPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Under the heading "Our Milk Supply," in this morning's "Herald," you discuss the above subject. There can be no two opinions about the absolute necessity which exists that adulteration of all foods should be rigorously dealt with, and it is hardly necessary for anyone to point out how much the public interest demands a pure food supply. Writing, however, with reference to milk, there is every necessity that the public should understand to how great an extent adulteration of milk, both by addition of preservatives and water, is practised.

During the year 1902 the Glebe Council prosecuted in about 50 cases for milk adulteration and got convictions in all but two or three cases. These 50 cases formed a very large percentage of the samples taken for analysis, since only in a very few cases were the samples found to be pure. The adulterations in those cases reached as high as 27 per cent. of water. I am informed that the average percentage of water added is from 12 to 15 per cent. That means that in addition to his ordinary profit from one-eighth to one-sixth of the milkman's receipts is clear profit, gained from selling what costs him nothing, viz., water.

I do not know what the average milkman's receipts are, but, taking them to be say £18 per week, then of that sum from £2 5s to £3 would be clear additional and illegal profit, amounting in the year to from £117 to £150. Now, in all those 50 cases in which the Glebe Council prosecuted, the average fine inflicted by the magistrate was much under 40s. The writer is not sure, but he does not think that 40s was exceeded in any one case, and in some cases the fine was as low as 5s. Under such circumstances, the milkman can afford to be convicted many times and then his dishonest trade of adulteration would be a most lucrative one. The penalty provided by the Public Health Act for this offence is not exceeding £20 for the first offence, and not exceeding £50 for the second offence. The inspector for the Glebe Council prosecuted a milk adulterator last week, who had added 15¾ per cent. of water. Although the solicitor appearing for the inspector pressed for a heavy penalty the magistrate inflicted one of only 40s. This pays the milkman handsomely, and with the greatest cheerfulness he can pay a small fine every now and then.

There is only one remedy and that is hinted at in your paragraph, namely, that the magistrate should assist the municipal councils by inflicting if not the maximum fine, at any rate one which is fairly commensurate with the offence. The tendency of your remarks is to blame the municipal authorities for the excessive adulteration of milk which is practised. Consider their position—they are obliged to retain and pay a responsible man as inspector for these prosecutions. The process of taking samples and getting them analysed must be gone through by him at considerable cost of time before he can commence the prosecution. In many cases he finds it necessary to have an assistant present so as to have corroboration of his evidence at the trial. He has then to take out summonses, subpoena witnesses, and in nearly every case the presence in court of the Government Analyst is necessary to testify to the analysis. Owing to the many technicalities which must be proved, and to the fact that in most cases the milkman retains some solicitor to defend him, it is absolutely necessary for the inspector to be also represented in court by a solicitor. After all this, what happens? The milkman is convicted of selling as pure milk, five-sixths milk and one-sixth water. To get this conviction, a highly salaried man such as the Government Analyst spends perhaps a whole day at the court, the council's inspector also spends a whole day there, and the council must pay professional fees to its solicitor, amounting to from 3 to 5 guineas. After all this the magistrate fines the milkman 40s and £1 is costs. Of that 40s the council gets half, the other half going to the Crown. It is the innocent municipal council which is fined the most heavily, not the guilty milkman.

There will be no cessation of selling the public water for milk while the present standard of fines is inflicted, as it pays the milkman to do it; but once let all the magistrates vigorously deal with all offenders and inflict the maximum penalty of £20, and then and not till then will the public get pure milk. The matter is entirely in the hands of the magistrates, and if they will assist the municipalities to punish all offenders, I'll guarantee the milk adulteration will soon cease and the honest milkman will be able to live.—I am, etc.,

THOMAS NOSWORTHY,
Mayor of the Glebe.

Dec. 28.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—I notice a good deal in the columns of your paper lately on the above subject, and while I have no sympathy with those who are paying the penalty of the law for selling adulterated milk, I certainly cannot compliment the officials who are responsible for the administration of the Act. Instead of harassing and victimising the late and early suburban dairyman and inciting magistrates to abuse their power of office by inflicting exorbitant fines, it would redound to their credit if they would only for a moment turn their attention to the cause, and use their best endeavours in a legitimate way to remedy it.

Until quite recently milk was retailed at 4d a quart. No complaints were made as to the price being too high, and I presume that to-day every common-sense housewoman throughout the city and suburbs is quite willing and does not object to pay the above price for pure milk. But instead of milk being 4d a quart it is only 3d, and in some places less. The price paid is ridiculously low, and but sufficient to compensate the producers for their labour. At all events this cheap milk business is a matter that requires investigation, and the sooner it is abolished the better for all concerned, as it is only by the paying of a higher price for a better article that our city friends can ever hope to obtain what they are at present apparently urgently in need of—a pure milk supply.

I am, etc., JUSTICE TO ALL PEOPLE.

Belmore, Dec. 28.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Referring to your sub-leader in this morning's issue re adulteration of our milk supply, I desire to be permitted to express the opinion that the fault lies not, as the Mayor of the Glebe has stated, with the magistrates in imposing nominal penalties, but with municipalities who do not carry out the duties imposed on them by the Health Act, and the vendors of adulterated milk take full advantage of their laxity in this regard; and, further, while you appear to find some consolation in the fact that the cheapest ingredient in respect of this adulteration is pure water, I would point out as a set-off against this that in two cases (amongst others) in which the borough I represent took proceedings this morning, the Government Analyst declared that the milk contained 16½ per cent. in one case and 17½ per cent. in the other of impure water. The adulteration of milk with pure water is bad, but the adulteration thereof with impure water should be treated as a criminal offence, for which a term of imprisonment should be meted out to the culprit without the option of any fine.

I am, etc.,
W. H. HOWARD,
Mayor of Paddington.

Dec. 28.

IMPORTANT MINING CASE.

ALLEGED BREACH OF ARBITRATION AWARD.

WOLLONGONG, Thursday.

A case of great interest to the mining community was heard to-day before Colonel Chisholm, P.M. Sub-inspector Banks, as an inspector under the Factories and Shops Act, sued the proprietors of the North Bulli colliery for an alleged breach of an award made by the Arbitration Court. The plaint set out that in an industrial dispute heard before the Court on December 3, 1902, in which the Illawarra Colliery Employees' Association were the claimants and the Southern Colliery Proprietors' Association the respondents, an award was made that the last to come should be the first to go. It was further alleged that the defendants were members of the respondent union, and that they had committed a breach of the award by keeping an employee named J. T. Anderson at work after an employee named Nathaniel Smith had been dismissed, although Smith had been in the employ of the company for a longer period. It was claimed that the defendants were liable to a penalty of £5. Mr. D. Ritchie (miners' general secretary) conducted the case for the Illawarra Miners' Employees' Association, and Mr. Kelynack, instructed by Messrs. Curtiss and Barry, appeared for the defendant company.

Mr. D. Ritchie, in his evidence, stated that, in company with the president and treasurer of the Illawarra Miners' Association, he called on Mr. Thomas Cater, manager of the Coledale colliery, and asked him why a certain number of employees had received notice of dismissal. He said that after a certain date he intended to work the colliery with coal-cutting machines, and that he would not require so many workmen. His attention was drawn to the arbitration award re the last to come and the first to go. Mr. Cater said if the work were going to be done by shiftwork he would pick those he thought fit, irrespective of the arbitration award; but he said the award would be carried out if the men accepted 6d per ton contract price. The witness subsequently sent a notice to Mr. Cater.

Nathaniel Woods, miner, gave evidence as to his receiving notice to bring out his tools, the management not giving any reason for his dismissal. He had not committed any breach of the rules, and was capable of doing any work in the colliery.

T. R. Morgan, district treasurer, J. Neild, a miner, Alex. Hicks, president, J. Henderson, shiftman, and F. Turner, miner, also gave evidence.

Thomas Cater, manager of the North Bulli colliery, stated that deputations from the Miners' Union approached him and asked his reason for giving notice to the miners. He informed them that when coal-cutting machines were used miners' services would not be required. The deputation then introduced the question of the last miner to come and first to go. The company offered to pay 5½ per day, or 6d per ton, which was refused by the Newcastle men. The Miners' Union declined to accept, but offered to accept 9s per day or 1s per ton. He denied that he had gone against the award. The class of work now being done at his colliery was not in evidence when the arbitration award was made, as there were no coal-cutting machines in the district at the time, and there was no provision in the award applying to the state of affairs now existing at his colliery, where the whole of the hewing was done by machines, leaving the coal to be filled only. If the award applied to all classes of employees they would have to be taken separately, not indiscriminately, as it would be impracticable. One class could not be put on to do the work of another to commercial advantage, and it would also be dangerous. There was only work for about 40 men as fillers, therefore 90 miners would have to go, even if that number accepted work at the rate offered.

F. Cater, underground manager, and R. Fullagher, contractor, stated that both Anderson and Smith stopped working for the company on December 10, but Anderson worked subsequently for the contractors.

Messrs. D. A. W. Robertson, A. E. O. Sellers, T. Cook, W. Pendleton, and J. C. Jones, local colliery managers, gave evidence that in their opinion the award was only intended to apply to miners. If the award was intended to apply to other classes of work in the colliery it could only apply to each class separately; it could not apply in any other way without throwing the whole colliery into disorder, and the operations could not be carried on. The introduction of coal-cutting machines had brought about a new state of things, and the conditions of the award were not applicable to the North Bulli colliery.

Messrs. Kelynack and Ritchie addressed the Bench, after which his Worship reserved his decision till January 9.

OLD IMMIGRATION BUILDINGS.

HOUSING OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

The Chief Secretary, Mr. Hogue, accompanied by the Under Secretary, the Government Architect, and other officials, visited the old immigration buildings in Chancery-square yesterday with the object of determining in particular those connected with the Registrar-General's Department and the Patents Office. Mr. Hogue had hoped to find accommodation in the technological museum at the Technical College, Ultimo, but to this the Public Instruction Department was not agreeable. As room must be found for them somewhere, it has been determined to place them in the old building at the top of Kingstreet. This old structure, which provides courts for the two Equity Judges, Messrs. A. H. Simpson and Walker, includes a number of rusty records, with dust-begrimed contents. The rooms were closely examined as regards their liability to destruction by fire. From that, however, little danger is to be apprehended, in view of the precautions to be taken. Fire-extinguishing appliances are provided, and it is believed the place generally will be more secure in regard to fire than the premises from which the Registrar-General's records were lately removed.

Many of the old rooms were found to be in a dingy condition, with lumber, books, documents, court, and company records of various sorts lying scattered in confusion, and generally bearing an air of studied neglect. Waste of space was apparent all round. Old rooms that might be made trim and neat had developed into receptacles for rubbish of a widely miscellaneous kind. One of the rooms was made a storehouse for old newspapers. Another was being stocked with volumes of the Parliamentary votes and proceedings, which, as the Minister observed, for all the value they were, might as well be buried in the earth.

Two other rooms were devoted to the personal and household effects of wards in lunacy and of intestate estates. These particular rooms lie between others, which the Minister thinks might well be utilised for the patents records or other documents. Again, two separate rooms are given over, one to the newspaper reporters and the other to the Court's official shorthand-writer. One should be sufficient for this service. It is contemplated to make a clearance of much of the rubbish that has accumulated in these dust-enveloped quarters. That will involve care and judgment, and the concurrence of other departments. In fact, it would appear as though the secret of the neglected condition of many of the quarters were to be found in the fact that they are under divided authority. No one department or individual appears responsible for the squalor that marks many of the old rooms in the antiquated building that used to do service as an immigration depot. There they are, apparently, in the same condition as when the first batch of immigrants was passed through them.

The Minister and party then visited the new quarters hard by of the Registrar-General. This building, as far as it has gone (for it has yet to receive important additions), seems admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was designed. It presented a striking contrast to the place just previously inspected. Mr. Hayes-Williams, the Registrar-General, has already got his staff comfortably quartered, and his records in a fair way of being conveniently placed for purposes of inspection. The upshot of the visit was that a report, giving in detail the views of the Minister, is to be prepared, when definite action will be taken in reference to the various matters to be dealt with.

THE JUSTICES' MANUAL.

Messrs. Angus and Robertson forward "The Justices' Manual and Police Guide," compiled by Daniel Stephen, sergeant of police. Readers are familiar with expensive books and opinions by eminent counsel who have patents of precedence, and who earn large sums of money from persons who undertake to get a practical experience of litigation at their own expense. But we fancy it has been reserved for our own State to possess a sergeant of police who is able and willing to show justices and policemen what they should do in any one of thousands of cases. Sergeant Stephen gives us, in his admirable little book, a synopsis of offences punishable by indictment and on summary conviction. He gives us, moreover, definitions of crimes, and the meanings of legal phrases, whilst his hints on evidence and his advice as to procedure will be found to the point. Very often the business of prosecuting persons accused of any crime belongs in the first instance, at any rate, to the police, and it is well they should have no excellent a guide in the discharge of their important duties as Sergeant Stephen's little book constitutes. Justices of the peace and others concerned in the administration of the law will also find the value of this admirably arranged work.

Group photographs of the Newington College Rifle Team and the Bathurst Public School Rifle Team are in the "Mail."—Advt.

THE ARBITRATION COURT.

REVISION OF RULES.

The rules governing the practice and procedure of the Arbitration Court, which have been in operation since the establishment of the Court in December, 1902, have undergone revision. The new rules, which will come into operation after to-morrow, were published in a supplement to the "Government Gazette" issued yesterday. Perhaps the most important of the revised rules is that relating to application for a common rule, or to extend or amend an award. The new rule reads as follows:—

When application is made—

(a) to declare that any practice, regulation, rule, custom, term of employment, or dealing in relation to an industrial matter shall be a common rule of an industry affected by a proceeding before the Court; or

(b) to extend the operations of any award, order, or agreement to any persons who are not parties to the proceeding in which the award or order is made or to the agreement; or

(c) for the amendment of any award, order, or agreement the operation of which has been extended to any persons who were not parties to the proceeding in which the award or order was made or to the agreement,—

the applicant shall, not later than 30 days before the hearing of the application, file with the Registrar notice of citation in Form 11 hereto, and, in the same way as process is served under rules 50 and 51 hereof, serve copies of such notice upon all employers who are known or may reasonably become known to the applicant, and who are engaged in the industry in respect of which the application is made within the area which will be affected by the granting of the application, whether such employers are exclusively engaged therein, or are engaged therein, partly or incidentally only, and employ workmen or workwomen for that purpose. The applicant shall also publish such notice in such manner as the Court or Registrar may direct in one or more newspapers circulating in the area aforesaid.

Provided that where application is made for an amendment of an award, the Court or President may grant leave for notice less extensive both as to time and persons.

The revised rule with reference to notice of objections to a common rule states that every person who desires to oppose any application of the nature mentioned in the last rule shall, before the day fixed for the hearing, file with the Registrar notice of objections, and shall at the same time serve a copy of such notice of objections upon the applicant.

The rule relating to an award or order being retained by the Registrar has also been revised, the principal alteration being that which declares that no award or order amending or interpreting any award or order shall be enforced until the same has been drawn up and filed with the Registrar, and unless after the expiration of seven days from the date of its publication in the "Government Gazette."

The new rule dealing with a writ of sequestration sets out that a writ of sequestration may be issued on a special order to be obtained on motion upon an affidavit of the circumstances of the case. It shall not be necessary to serve the person against whom such writ is sought to be issued with notice of the motion unless the president shall so direct.

The rule relating to a writ of attachment declares that

No summons shall be taken out by or on behalf of an industrial union for a writ of attachment unless and until a resolution authorising such summons to be taken out by an officer of the union specified in such resolution has been passed in the manner prescribed by section 28 of the Act, in respect of a resolution for the enforcement of an award passed by the members of the union or the officers of the union, as the case may be. Every such summons shall be accompanied by a copy of the resolution authorising the issue thereof, verified by affidavit in form 21 hereto, and, where the resolution is passed by the officers of the union, accompanied also by a certificate of the registrar that it is impracticable to summon a meeting of all the members of the union.

FIRE IN A BREWERY.

A fire occurred late last evening at Emma-street, Leichhardt, in a building occupied by Mr. Alfred Lord, and used as a brewery. The alarm was sent through the local exchange, and detachments from Leichhardt and Marrickville were despatched to the scene. The building is a weatherboard one, 60 x 30 feet. The flames also spread to the packing-room and store, which is about 15 x 30 feet. The outbreak was extinguished with two hydrants. The buildings and contents were severely damaged by fire and water. The contents and plant were insured for £450, but the insurance on the premises, which are owned by Mr. Alfred Rofe, of Castlereagh-street, city, are unknown.

MOORE'S ALMANAC.

"Moore's Australian Almanac and Country Directory," copy of which comes to us from the publishers, Messrs. Kealy and Philip, is now in the fifty-fourth year of publication, and the 1905 number does not yield to any of its predecessors in point of view of accuracy or scope. The information supplied has been brought up to date, and matters which would seem to be unimportant are religiously given their fair share of space. The latest changes in the official world are duly noted, and useful directions are given which will be found valuable in various cases—whether it is a matter of the cost of a wire to Perth or of the rates of parcels postage, or of how to boil ham.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

On Christmas morning the committee of the Sydney Night Refuge, Francis-street, provided a breakfast for 80 men. The cheer was specially provided during Christmas for friends of the work. After the breakfast each man received a packet of tobacco.

The Rev. J. T. Thorburn, B.A., assisted by a committee of ladies and gentlemen of the Palmer-street Presbyterian Church, and their friends, gave a Christmas treat to 320 of the poorest children of Woollloomooloo and district in Palmer-street School Hall on Monday afternoon.

The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital report for the week ended December 24:—Number of in-patients at last report, 196 males, 120 females; since admitted, 34 males, 26 females; discharged, 28 males, 23 females; died, males, 7 females; remaining in hospital on December 24, 204, 115 males, 96 females; number of out-patients treated during the week, 597; number of casualty cases treated but not admitted, 295.

HOLIDAY TRAVELLING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Continuously we hear complaints at holiday time of inconvenience to the travelling public. Year after year the traffic increases on our railways, so also do our legitimate grievances. The wonderful signs are well advertised that are within easy reach of our railways, and the facilities afforded look very inviting (to print). The journey thither should be accomplished in necessary comfort, not mingled with annoyance and regret at having undertaken the journey. It is a very rare occurrence to hear the railway facilities spoken of in the same terms as the scenery en route and at our destination. On the contrary very strong terms are applied to the disadvantages of travelling at holiday time. Now this should not be so. I feel I am voicing the opinion of thousands of disappointed holiday-makers who are content to say plain language about the hardships they feel that it is no use, as unless you are somebody with a power of influence, complaining is of no avail. But these somebodies of influence are known to all and sundry in the Railway Department, and get the very best attendance, and travelling in comfort. The simple reason that there is any trouble at any time, the secrets of the Railway Department can rely upon these somebodies to back them up. They are frequently possessors of free passes, while we are paying full fares and indirectly paying for their travelling in comfort and style.

My last experience of annoyance and inconvenience is just slightly varied from past experiences since the Illawarra line was first opened for traffic. Nearly every holiday I have travelled on this line as far as Nowra, and many times at the week-ends. On Friday, 23rd December I sometimes take a cab and at others per tram. If I arrive per cab there are generally two or three porters waiting, and the vehicle has hardly pulled up till they are grasping your luggage eagerly, but arrive by tram and you can get your luggage into the train as you can. On Saturday last I arrived at Redfern Station per cab, and three porters rushed up to take the luggage, two small gladstone bags and a camera. Two porters retired, the remaining one offering to get our tickets as well as see the luggage was put into our carriage. In answer to his inquiries as to where we were going, he was told to Nowra. Off he went towards the train, while my brother relieved him of getting the tickets, while I went to the telegraph office to send a wire. On my going on to the platform I joined my brother, who had found that we could get standing room on the platform of a first-class car near the engine along with four others. This made six of us standing on the car platform. Prior to this, in looking for a seat in the train, we looked in vain for our porter and the necessary luggage. We concluded he must have put it in the luggage van, and at the first opportunity on arrival at Otford we found it had not been put upon the train at all. We were told our first opportunity to wire re same would be at Wollongong. We did so on arrival there. When we reached Nowra we were told we could possib

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

Thursday Evening.

The year is drawing to a close without remarkable incidents in any department.

Sometimes people at a distance can see the true causes of movement better than those who are on the spot, and in the thick of it. When, therefore, a month back our English correspondents were talking of probable depression in the wool trade in the market there, we failed to see any justification for it. As it seemed to us, the smallness of the world's supplies and the growth of population all warranted a more hopeful outlook, and thus when the writer in question now says, writing under date November 25:—"If ever there was a time when wool deceived the majority of men in the trade, that time is now, for instead of values easing, as was generally expected, a decided turn upward has taken place, and events seem to indicate a full continuance of to-day's new standard," we are not at all surprised. A much more reasonable view is now taken when it is said that "it was imperative that everyone should be on the spot and try to pick up wool to the best of one's ability;" and again, "in the absence of all stocks men must buy to meet even current wants;" and further, "among the foreigners visiting Coleman-street there is a more optimistic tone expressed;" and again, "both France and Germany appear to be wanting wool, for to-day they are bidding liberally and freely, and do not seem particular about paying an extra halfpenny to secure good combing and clothing descriptions." If it had not been for the exceptional and scarcely warranted prices of 1899, so far as could be judged from a distance, and which caused so many failures, prices would probably be higher to-day than they are. Manufacturers have been running on scraps and dregs of wool, and buyers generally have been trying to force down the prices unduly to the detriment of our growers, on a basis not warranted by the actual conditions of stocks and prospective supplies. And our Bradford correspondent describes a condition of affairs precisely such as we were led to expect might and probably would occur. When contrasting the enormously greater advance in crossbreds than in merinos, there seems reason in the opinion expressed in the following:—"Nobody to-day can touch a bit of decent fleece crossbred wool under a shilling per lb, and with merinos at certainly no more men are beginning to think that they might as well buy the finer article as the heavier," and it seems quite probable that if "the big advance in crossbreds is maintained there is little doubt about consumers pushing fine cloths for all they are worth." And it is no doubt true that, "taking quality for quality, the merino is undoubtedly the cheaper of the two," and it is not matter for wonder that in consequence "consumption is slightly better than it was." The following table shows the relative prices of the different descriptions of Bradford tops at the present time and at the corresponding period of 1903 and 1902:—

	Dec. 28, 1902.	Dec. 25, 1903.	Dec. 23, 1904.
Bradford Tops, 40's	9½d	12d	16½d
Ditto, 47's	10½d	13½	17d
Ditto, 60's, common	23½d	22½d	24d
Ditto, 60's, super	24½d	23½d	24½d

The comparatively greater advance in 40's and 47's indicates the remarkable movement in crossbred wool, while the smaller rise in 60's shows how comparatively stagnant has been the condition of merino.

The Hon. J. A. Hogue has accepted a seat on the directorate of the Yorkshire Fire and Life Insurance Company.

The Messageries Maritimes Company (says the Paris correspondent of the "Economist") announced for November 19 the subscription to 60,000 preference shares of 250f at par, reserved for holders of the existing ordinary shares in the proportion of one of the new for two of the old. The new shares were to carry a right to a dividend of 5 per cent. before any other distribution of profits, after which the old ordinary shares would receive a like dividend, and then the new and old would participate equally in any surplus profits.

An international gas exhibition, opened at Earl's Court, London, on November 19, was continued until December 17. It is stated that such display of the multitudinous uses of gas for heat, light, and power had never been made in the world before. The introduction of the electric light over a score of years back gave the gas industry an enormous stimulus in the United Kingdom, the result of which came as a surprise to every technical visitor to the exhibition. A special and remarkable feature of the gas exhibition was made in the superb display of public lighting, only the best and most up-to-date systems being shown. This was allowed to be the finest and most complete array of high-pressure gas lighting ever brought together. A great variety of forms of gas lighting were exhibited, in all of which the illuminating effect of the consumption was thirty-fold as brilliant as it was in 1882, upon the same expenditure of cubic feet. This enormous gain was due almost entirely to the introduction of the incandescent gas burner, the possibilities of which it is claimed are yet only in their infancy. From various parts of the country the local governing bodies and technical associations were forming parties to see the displays. It is interesting to learn from a board of trade return the advance in the use of gas in 20 years:—1882: No. of consumers, 1,971,971; gas sold, in cubic feet, 66,613,943,898. 1902: No. of consumers, 14,168,725; gas sold, in cubic feet, 147,732,584,030. The increase of gas sold was 1.21 per cent., or about six times as great as the growth of population in the same time. There were, however, more than seven times as many consumers. These figures, of course, showed that the consumption had become very general; for 14,168,725 represents more than a third of the population of the United Kingdom, and these figures doubtless included many more than the nominal number of consumers. The consumption is increasing steadily yet rapidly. It is claimed by the promoters of the exhibition that "to-day no lighting by electricity can compare with it for cheapness, steadiness, and brilliancy."

The report of the Houlder Line, Limited, for 1903 states that the delay in presenting the accounts had been unavoidable. In order to minimise as far as possible the effects of the competition mentioned in the chairman's speech last year, the larger boats of the fleet, since the beginning of 1903, had been worked in combination with other owners in the Australasian trade, who possessed boats of a similar type. The adjustment of the first year's accounts of this joint working had caused some delay, which is not likely to recur. The depression in freights generally had been still further accentuated in 1903, and, in common with many other shipowners, this company had suffered materially. Especially had the depression been felt in the carriage of frozen meat, for which all the company's steamers were largely fitted. The profits for the year amounted to £23,973, and after providing for interest and other charges, there remained a balance brought forward, the year, to which must be added the balance brought forward, making a total £23,959. Out of this £20,000 had been placed to the depreciation fund and reserve, bringing up this fund to £140,000, and the directors recommended that the balance of £3959 be carried forward. With reference to the payment of the two half-yearly dividends on the five and a half per cent. cumulative preference shares for 1903, the directors considered that the acute depression was only temporary, and that sufficient profits would be earned to justify the payment, in any case, of those dividends. The result, unfortunately, had not justified the distribution, and the directors had repaid the amounts to the company.

The report of the Australian Cities Investment for the year ended June 30 last states that 180 acres of land were sold for £14,367. Of this purchase money, £2437 was received, together with £3300 on account of previous sales, making a total of £5737. The sale had been effected of 171 acres to the Australian Golf Links, Limited, on the undeveloped parts of the estate. The company had fenced the land, and was about to erect a handsome club-house thereon. The directors had written off on account and bad sales during the year £2680, being the redemption rate of £200 per acre for the improved land and £40 per acre for the unimproved land, thus leaving a credit balance of £3057. Owing to the improved position of the company the Australian directors considered that they were fully justified in drawing their fees for the four years ended June 30, 1903, amounting to £600. This amount appeared in the profit and loss account as having been paid; but the directors were advised that in order to make such payment regular it would be necessary for the shareholders to confirm it. The directors recommended that a dividend be declared at the rate of 5 per cent. (is per share), free of income tax. This would absorb £1763 and leave a credit balance of £443.

ENGLISH COMMERCIAL.

SILVER.

LONDON, Dec. 28.

Bar silver is quoted to-day at 2s 4¼d per ounce standard, an advance of 1-16d since the previous day.

METALS.

Dec. 29.

Latest quotations are:—

Copper, on spot ..£67 10s 3d, at three months ..£68 3s 9d per ton.

Lead, soft foreign £12 17s 6d per ton.

BREADSTUFFS.

Wheat had a rather steadier tone to-day. Prices, however, continued to be quoted at 2s 4½d to 2s 5½d for new. A line of 9000 bags of old wheat was offered. London cables indicate a quiet market there, with prices a shade easier at 28s 4½d to 28s 6d per 480lb., c.i.f. Flour ruled dull at £8 to £8s 15s per ton for local brands.

The requirements of European countries this season are still a matter of some speculation. It will be remembered that in September "Beerbohm" issued his forecast of the season's requirements. He suggested that the European requirements might reach 61 million quarters; since then other attempts have been made in a similar direction, suggesting that about 55 million quarters may suffice, or rather less than was actually imported in each of the two previous seasons. The actual net imports into Europe in the three months ended October 31 are not yet returned in full from each country, but enough is known to warrant us in estimating the total at 15 million quarters, which compares with the imports of the corresponding period in the two previous years as follows:—

	Imports. Aug. 1 to Oct. 31. Total for season
	Qrs. Qrs.
1904	15,000,000 ?
1903	15,100,000 56,325,000
1902	15,130,000 56,217,000

This would seem to favour the lower estimates of the season's total requirements; but a little reflection will, perhaps, tend to modify the prima facie effects of this comparison. It must be remembered that in cases of unusual deficiency, the effects of that deficiency are generally felt in the later rather than in the earlier part of the season. Thus it is quite obvious that Italy, Spain, and Portugal, and Austria-Hungary will import a far larger quantity in the coming nine months than was the case last season; and it is not by any means improbable that France may after all find herself compelled to import a fairly large quantity in the spring and summer months. Therefore, the proportions which the first quarter's imports bore to the season's total in the two past years will in all probability not apply in the present season. It would, indeed, be somewhat extraordinary if, in a season in which the supply of home-grown wheat is the smallest on record, and in which Austria-Hungary figures for the first time as an importer on a serious scale, there should be no increase compared with what may be termed the ordinary seasons of the two past years.

IMPORT MARKET.

Trade continued to assume moderate dimensions, as is usual at this period of the year. As between merchants there was scarcely anything doing. Nor were any cables of importance reported as having been received from abroad.

An agitation is being conducted in Queensland with the view of pressing on the Federal Cabinet the necessity of providing for a bonus of £3 per ton on white sugar after the present Bonus Act expires in December, 1906. There is a duty of £6 per ton on sugar under the Federal tariff, and an excise duty of £3 per ton on Australian-grown sugar. But the planter who employs white labour is allowed a bonus or rebate of £2 a ton on this rate, so that he really enjoys a Customs protection of £5 a ton. The bonus system cost the Commonwealth £90,000 in 1902-3, £90,000 in 1903-4, and it is anticipated that the refunds of excise will amount to £100,000 during the current financial year. The substitution of white labour for coloured labour on Queensland and New South Wales plantations is therefore steadily reducing the revenue derived from the sugar duties, especially as the local production of sugar increases and the imports fall off. The following tables prepared by the Federal Treasurer tell their own tale:—

	Sugar Imported.		Australian Grown.	
	Quantity. Tons.	Duty. £	Quantity. Tons.	Duty. £
1902-3	53,823	92,506	27,917	27,917
1903-4	80,586	485,516	102,048	256,120
1904-5*	42,000	252,000	65,000	163,000

*Estimate.

The total revenue has therefore worked out thus:—1902-3—£730,448, less £92,506 for bounties, or £670,009. 1903-4—£789,646, less £90,000 for bounties, or £699,646. 1904-5—£687,000, less £100,000 for bounties, or £587,000. The maintenance of the bonus system, therefore, implies a further pronounced declension of revenue. But the situation cannot be thus readily reckoned out. The Sugar Excise Act expires synchronously with the Bonus Act. Many protectionists, politicians, and especially Queensland members, maintain that the bonus system must be preserved for some years to come, in order to assure the success of the white Australia policy in Queensland. If Ministers will not consent to extend the Bonus Act for five years, then they threaten to oppose the re-enactment of the Excise Act. They assert that they would never have agreed to an excise duty being levied on Australian sugar, except as the means to provide a fund for the creation of a bonus scheme. The Bonus Act will cost £100,000 this year; the excise duties will return £435,000 gross. They consequently contend that Ministers must choose between losing £100,000 or £435,000 of revenue.

There is wonderful buoyancy of sentiment expressed in all speculative iron and steel circles in England, but it is fair to say that the buoyancy is far more pronounced in speculative than in consuming circles. At a time when the speculative element can see nothing but good in a market regarding which a few months ago it entertained nothing but the deepest pessimism, caution is thrown to the winds, and the mere hint that matters are being carried beyond the confines warranted by actual trade improvement is scouted as absurd. The fact remains that the movement here is initiated by speculative purchases, and has been ably seconded by wire-pullers in the United States, who made the very most of the "bull" features arising out of the recent election. The improved export given to the market as a result of this seems to have caused a good many people to lose their heads, for the wildest reports have at times been in circulation as to the impending almost immediate shipments of pigiron from the Cleveland district to the United States. Given unbending prosperity for the next few months America might possibly draw supplies of pigiron from over seas, but with her enormous reserve blast-furnace capacity such a contingency does not at present seem to be within measurable reach.

Messrs. R. H. Harris and Co., will offer at unreserved auction to-morrow (Friday), a quantity of leather and grindery in the assigned estate of C. J. Abigail.

The Customs revenue received at Sydney to-day amounted to £7360. The principal items were:—Stimulants, £2260; narcotics, £247; sugar, £41; agricultural products and groceries, £402; apparel and textiles, £805; metals and machinery, £206; oils, paints, and varnishes, £158; earthenware, cement, etc., £62; drugs and chemicals, £120; wood, wicker, and cane, £98; jewellery and fancy goods, £106; leather and rubber, £57; paper and stationery, £185; vehicles, £25; musical instruments, £107; pilotage, £71; excise on spirits, £358; excise on tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes, £913; excise on beer, £401; excise on starch, £106; excise on sugar, £120; all other licenses, £225.

EXPORT MARKET.

Wool Receipts.—At Darling Harbour on Thursday 497 bales of wool were manifested to arrive by rail, 893 bales came to hand coastwise, and at Newcastle on Wednesday 164 bales were received.

LONDON WOOL MARKET.

LONDON, Nov. 25.

The sixth and last series for the year of the London colonial wool auctions began on November 22. Three catalogues comprised 9682 bales of fair average selection for the period of the year. There was a very large muster of the trade from all parts, and competition was keen for every lot as it came forward. Prices compared with the closing rates of previous series were 2d for best Australian greasy wools fully 5 per cent., and for other sorts par to 5 per cent. higher. The bulk of the crossbreds were slips; these sold 10 to 12 per cent. and occasionally for the stronger grades 15 per cent. above last auctions in September.

There was no one section more keen than another, each competed eagerly for both merino and crossbreds. The home demand was most marked for crossbreds, and a good deal of merino, especially of the good-bodied, sound, combing grasiers, for which very full rates were paid. France was well to the fore for the finest haired wools, 2s 3d being paid for one parcel of fine clothing scoured, the consings of same took realising 2s 4d. 18½d was paid for one lot of combing greasy. Germany also competed for outstanding merinos, and often paid very full rates in order to procure stock. America was well to the fore for light-conditioned merino and crossbred greasy wools. The sales are progressing with great animation, all descriptions being fully up to opening quotations, a clearance being effected daily. It is evident that we wanted in all quarters, and extreme rates are being paid in order to obtain supplies, in any event, until the larger shipments come to hand, and some relief will be obtained. Thus far the new clip generally appears in rather better condition, and gives evidence of better treatment throughout the season, and abundant promise of a supply of sound combing wools to come forward.

In the manufacturing areas the upward tendency of wool at the London auctions is received as the inevitable. The continued demand for lower quality crossbreds at home, coupled with the activity of some American buyers in Bradford and elsewhere in this country, could result in no other conclusion than that more money would have to be paid for such grades before leaving the country for manipulation elsewhere. So much as went is lost to the British manufacturer, and must be met from somewhere else. Hence the unusual run on London at this period of the year. The improved inquiry for merinos for some time back, although not leading to extensive operations, has greatly strengthened the position of these wools, and, should the demand widen, the position of crossbred might be affected. It is said that 13½d per lb has been paid for 60's tops. If that be so, it cannot be expected that the cheaper class of material made from these sorts can continue, and the nearer they approximate to merino cloths the greater the advance is likely to be. The opinion grows that the lower grades have touched high water mark. Whether that be so or not remains for the future to reveal, but as far as this country is concerned, there is a growing disposition to be very cautious when handling these coarse goods.

Whilst there is nothing to warrant any advance as far as terminal markets are concerned, there is a fairly steady consumption going on all round, and certainly, taking the period of the year into account, it is not bad by comparison with former good years.

The advances on the raw material have come very opportune for the Australian wool season, and the farmers would do well to take full advantage of it. At foot are particulars of some leading brands sold, and prices realised during the opening week:—

New South Wales.—Poon Boon, greasy sup. combing, 10½d; greasy, 1st combing 10d, 9½d, 9d; greasy, 1st, 9½d; greasy, 1st necks, 10½d; greasy necks, 10d; greasy, broken, 9½d; Talka in Lachlan, oblong, greasy, 1st combing, 1s, 11½d, 11d; greasy, 2nd combing, 11d, 9½d; greasy, 1st, 8½d; greasy, broken, 11d. Toulby, greasy, 1st combing, 10½d, 10d; greasy, 1st clothing, 9½d; greasy, 1st pieces, 10d, 9½d; greasy, sup. lamba, 9½d; greasy, 1st lambs, 9½d. Newcomen over Angledool, greasy, A combing, 10½d; greasy, A pieces, 10d; A. Tobin and son over Wingadee, scoured, sup. combing, 1s 9½d, 1s 9d, 1s 8½d, 1s 8d; scoured 1st combing, 1s 7½d, 1s 7d, 1s 6½d; scoured broken, 1s 4½d; scoured pieces, 1s 4½d, 1s 4d; scoured bellies, 1s 2d. Mein over Narran, scoured 1st combing 1s 9d, 1s 8d; scoured 1st clothing, 1s 8d, 1s 7½d, 1s 7d; scoured backs, 1s 7½d; scoured broken, 1s 6d, 1s 4d; scoured 1st pieces, 1s 5d, 1s 4½d; scoured 2nd pieces, 1s 2½d. Mumbledool, greasy 1st combing, 11½d; greasy 2nd combing, 10d; greasy 1st clothing, 9½d; greasy 2nd clothing, 8½d; greasy 1st pieces, 10d. Shaw, scoured A, 2s 0½d; scoured B, 2s 1d; scoured C, 2s 0½d; scoured sup. clothing, 2s 0d; scoured broken, 1s 11d; scoured 1st pieces, 1s 10½d. BKS, greasy sup. combing, 1s 2½d, 1s 2d, 1s 1½d; greasy 1st combing, 1s 1d, 1s 0½d; greasy 1st clothing, 1s 1½d; greasy 1st lambs, 9½d; greasy 1st pieces, 11½d, 11d; greasy 1st lambs, 9½d, 9d.

Queensland.—Eddington, scoured 1st combing, 1s 11d, 1s 10d, 1s 9½d, scoured 1st clothing, 1s 11½d; scoured 2nd clothing, 1s 9½d; scoured 1st pieces, 1s 9d, 1s 8½d; scoured 2nd pieces, 1s 8d. GP over Bimerah, scoured 1st combing, 1s 11½d; scoured 2nd combing, 1s 11½d, 1s 11d; scoured A combing, 1s 10d; scoured 2nd clothing, 2s; scoured first pieces, 1s 9d, 1s 8½d; scoured 2nd pieces, 1s 7d; scoured bellies, 1s 0½d, 1s 4½d; scoured 1st lambs, 1s 11d, 1s 10d. McM. Hive over Kelso, scoured 1st combing, 1s 8½d, 1s 8d, 1s 7½d; scoured 2nd combing, 1s 8½d, 1s 8d; scoured 1st clothing, 1s 10d, 1s 9½d; scoured broken, 1s 7½d, 1s 7d; scoured necks, 1s 7d; scoured 1st pieces, 1s 7d. Milo, scoured 1st combing, 1s 9½d; scoured 1st pieces, 1s 9d; scoured bellies, 1s 0½d. Niva over Downs in circle, greasy A combing 11½d, 11d, greasy B combing 11d, 10½d, greasy C 10d, greasy D 9½d, greasy 1st pcs 10d; Fernlee, scoured A in diamond 1s 9½d, scoured B in diamond 1s 7½d, scoured BRB 1s 8½d, scoured A lambs 1s 4d; J.T.D over Brookstead, greasy 1st combing 1s, greasy second combing 11½d, greasy clothing 1s 0½d, greasy 1st pcs 9½d; Clonagh, greasy A combing 9½d, greasy B combing 9d, greasy C clothing 8½d, greasy broken 8d; Wiggonguara, scoured 1st combing 1s 8d, scoured 2nd combing 1s 8d, scoured clothing 1s 8½d, scoured 1st pcs 1s 4½d; Mt. Cornish, scoured, A combing 1s 11½d, 1s 1d, scoured B combing 1s 11½d, 1s 10d; scoured clothing 2s, scoured 1st pcs 1s 9½d, 1s 9d, scoured 2nd pcs 1s 7½d, scoured bellies 1s 0½d, 1s 6d.

COMMERCIAL TELEGRAMS.

ADELAIDE, Thursday.

Business was resumed to-day, but not much life was put into dealing, and nothing important was reported. In breadstuffs wheat was quoted at 5s 4½d; flour, £8 5s to £8 10s. Bran and pollard were firm, the former up to 9d, and the latter to 9½d.

PRODUCE INWARDS.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The steamer Tyrian sailed yesterday for Sydney with 577 bags beans, 268 cases fruit, 73 bags potatoes, 250 bags flour, 895 bags oats, 20 bales hay, 35 bales chaff, 160 bales fodder.

The steamer Mari o sailed yesterday for Sydney with 47 cases fruit, 210 packages sugar, 100 bales chaff, 200 bales fodder.

PRODUCE MARKETS.—Thursday.

TRADE IN SUSSEX-STREET.

Notwithstanding the fact that business has ostensibly been resumed, the produce markets of Sussex-street and like centres still display a holiday aspect. Buyers do not seem disposed to purchase except in small parcels, their object apparently being to await the advent of the New Year, which means, of course, deferred payments. There were, however, some departments in which different conditions prevailed. For instance, the potato market ruled very firm, and prices were materially advanced. A boom was also existent in the onion market on account of the trivial stocks.

Holiday conditions continued in the dairy produce trade, and all lines were very dull. Stocks of eggs were very light, but in ratio equal to the demand, and prices were unmoved. In consequence of the lighter supplies manifested to arrive on Friday, a firmer market was anticipated by agents. In the exportation of butter a good deal of activity existed, but local sales were dull. The R.M.S. which sailed for London from Melbourne on Tuesday, carried a shipment of 24,571 boxes from that port.

The feature of business in the forage market was the few consignments which were forward for sale. At Redfern only two truckloads arrived, and these, being composed of inferior samples, were sold at low rates. In oaten hay and straw the demand was perforce, directed to imported makes in the absence of local supplies. Only three trucks of lucerne came to hand by rail, while the Newcastle steamer arrived with 71 bales from the Hunter River. At both selling depot demands ruled firm, but values were not enhanced. A good turnover was reported in bran and pollard at prices current. Inferior export business to the islands was also advised. In the maize market trade was quiet, and buyers have confidence in the market remaining on the present basis, for their operations were practically confined to small state requirements. The steamers arriving from the rivers have this week been of less volume, but this fact was attributed to the holidays, rather than to signs of the exhaustion of stocks on the rivers. Should the arrivals show permanent diminution, this, together with the fact that new season's maize is not expected until the end of February or beginning of March, would have a firming effect on the market. A consignment of prime Tumut maize was disposed of at 2s 7d per bushel. Business transacted in oats was entirely for imported grain, prices remaining as before. The potato market was in a more advanced position, and a large turnover was effected. About 850 bags of potatoes changed hands at auction at prices ranging from £5 10s to £8 3s 4d per ton. Some 200 bags arrived from the Northern rivers, and 600 bags from Bass's Straits. The Newcastle steamer brought 605 bags to hand, the major portion being from the Paterson River. For prime ones agents received from £5 10s to £6, but the many consignments of small tubers went at £5 per ton. The onion market was rather excited, owing to the scarcity, and holders seemed unwilling to transact business even at £10 per ton. A fresh shipment is not expected until after New Year's Day.

Wholesale quotations were:—

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Bacon and Hams.—Bent Factory, sides 5½d to 6½d. Stitches 5½d to 6d, middles 7d to 7½d; York Castle, sides 6½d, stitches 6½d, middles 7½d to 8d; Federal, sides 6½d, stitches 6½d, middles 7½d to 8d; Pineapple, middles 7½d, stitches 6d, sides 6½d; Rodalla, sides 6½d, middles 7½d, stitches 6d; F. and I., sides 6½d, stitches 6d, middles 8d; B in circle, sides 6½d, stitches 6d, middles 7½d. Hams: Colonial, in cloth, 8d, small weights 9d; Pineapple, 11d; New Zealand, 11d; York Castle, 10d to 10½d; Rodalla, 10½d; F. F. and I., 10½d; B in circle, 10½d; Federal, 10d lb.

Butter.—Others and extra prime 9d, prime 8½d to 8¾d, seconds 8d, pastry makes 7½d lb.

Cheese.—Local: Prime loaf 8d to 8½d, choice 8½d, good 4d to 4½d, prime large 8d, inferior from 3½d; Kameruka Cheddar, 7d; Kdams, 8d; Rodalla, 7d 3lb. Tegee.—Others, 7d; Rodalla, 7d; loaf 10d; South Coast, 10d; suburban new-laid, 11d to 1s doz.

POULTRY.

Fowls.—River: Hens 2s 9d to 3s, choice 3s 3d, old 2s 6d to 2s 9d, young roosters 3s 3d to 3s 6d, choice 3s 9d; English River ducks, 2s 6d to 2s 9d, choice 3s; Muscovy ducks, river prime 3s 6d to 3s 9d, choice 3s to 4s; geese, young 6s to 7s 6d, old 4s 6d to 6s; turkeys, gobblers 12s to 13s, choice 10s, hens 7s to 8s, guinea fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 9d pair.

GAME.

Pigeons.—Common 1s 6d, Wonga 2s 6d to 4s pair.

BREADSTUFFS.

Wheat.—New, 2s 5d to 2s 5½d bus.

Flour.—Lines at from £8 5s to £8 10s, small lots up to £8 15s ton.

FORAGE MARKET.

Chaff.—Prime £5 to £5 10s, medium £2 10s to £2 18s 4d, inferior £1 10s bd. Melbourne: Oaten, £3 10s to £3 5s. Adelaide: Prime £3 10s ton.

Oaten Hay.—Melbourne: £3 10s ton.

Straw.—Derrick-pressed.—Tasmanian: £2 ton.

Lucerne.—Wharf: Choice dry green £3, brown sweated £2 10s to £2 15s, inferior £1 10s to £2. Redfern: Prime large bales £2 8s 4d, medium small bales £2 10s ton.

BRAN AND POLLARD.

Bran, 7d; pollard, 9d bus.

FEED-GRAIN MARKET.

Barley.—Cape, 2s 3d; English, 2s 4d bus.

Maize.—River: Fifty bushels 2s 8d, weevily from 2s 3d, white grain 2s 6d. South Coast: 2s 7d.

Oats.—Melbourne: Algerian, 1s 7d to 1s 8d. Tasmanian: White feed 2s 2d to 2s 4d, choice 2s 6d. Local: Algerian, 1s 7d bus.

Peas.—Grey 2s to 2s 4d, blue 4s 3d to 4s 7d bus.

Chickwheat.—Inferior and pinched 2s 2d to 2s 6d, medium 2s 7d to 2s 10d, and full-grain 2s 11d to 3s 1½d, second milling 2s 2d to 2s 4d bus.

POTATO MARKET.

Potatoes.—Macleay River: £5 to £6. Hunter River: £5 10s to £6, small £5. Warrnambool: £5 to £5 10s ton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Onions.—Victorian: Globes, £10 ton.

Honey.—Choice 24d, prime 2d to 2½d, good 1½d lb, for 1-lbs. containing 60lb. 2d.

Lard.—Bulk 3½d to 3¾d, bladders 4½d lb.

Beeswax.—Dark 1s 1d, light 1s 2d lb.

REDFERN SALES.

The buyers who put in an appearance at the Redfern auction yards to-day were fully equal at the scantiness of the offerings, only 12 trucks being forward. Of these potatoes comprised exactly half the number. The two trucks of chaff submitted for sale found quick disposal, medium at 2s 6d, and interior 1s 10d per cwt. Prime Algerian oats in small bales brought 2s 6d, prime in large bales 2s 5d, and green trass from the Hawkesbury went at 2s 9d per cwt. The only truck of maize available (from Tumut) met with sale at 2s 7d per bushel. About 200 bags of potatoes, mostly from the Hawkesbury River, were offered, and higher prices were received. Prime tubers went at from 6s 5d to 8s 2d, and medium lots at from 5s 6d per cwt.

Among the consignees were:—Messrs. H. Prescott and Co., Dent and Perry, J. Bridge and Co., H. M. Suttor and Co., Ellis and Co., and the Farmers and Settlers' Co-operative Society.

The produce forward consisted of 12 trucks, in the following proportions:—Chaff 2 trucks, lucerne 2, maize 1, and potatoes 6.

Consignments were disposed of as follow:—

Chaff.—From Bullock, Blaynev, (2276) 2s 6d; Brown, Parramatta, (12018) 1s 10d cwt.

Lucerne.—From A. Greentree, Windsor, (4437) 2s 9d; Markham, Aberdeen, (11344) 2s 6d; Necley, (3951) 2s 6d cwt.

Maize.—From Ah Chee, Tumut, (8033) 2s 7d bushel.

Potatoes.—From Nowra, (9358) 4 bags addressed 2s 7d, 10 bags 7s 6d, 7 bags 7s 3d, 14 bags 7s 2d, 7s 8d; Schofield Siding, (6718) 9 T.W. 5s 6d; Mulgrave, (6819) 8 A.P.B. 5s 11d, 13 2. 8s 2d, 17 J.M. 8 at 7s 9d, 9 at 8s, 10 bags 7s 4d, 15 Z.R. 8s 2d; Windsor, (4062) 54 J.T. passed, 15 T.S.H. 7s 7d, 20 J. 7s 8d, (11541) 20 G.J. 7s 10d, 20 J.G. 7s 10d, 7s 4d, 10 A.L.L. 8s 1d, 7 J. 7s 2d, 15 T.S.H. passed, 7 H. 7s 3d; Richmond, (6292) 7 S.M. passed, 15 W.P. 6s 8d cwt. 11 F.B. passed.

FRUIT MARKETS.

A very fair turnover was recorded in local fruit at the Bathurst-street markets to-day. Plums were somewhat easier in prices, as also were apples. Apricots were very scarce, and the season seems to be almost finished. Slip-stone peaches were in good request at from 7s to 8s, and small at from 4s per half-case.

Current quotations were:—

Bananas.—Queensland: 3s to 4s bunch, 9s to 10s case. Fiji: 10s 6d to 11s 6d case, 3s to 3s bunch.

Pineapples.—Common, choice 7s to 7s 6d, small 3s 6d to 4s; Queens, 7s to 8s 6d case.

Peaches.—Hale's Early, 7s to 8s, good 5s to 6s 6d; slip-stones, 7s to 8s, small at half-case.

Gooseberries.—Melbourne: 3s, large 4s. Tasmanian: Choice 4s 6d quarter-case.

Plums.—Bullys, 3s to 4s; Engelinas, 5s to 7s gin-case, and 3s to 4s half-case; Lutherboros, 2s to 4s gin-case; Japanese, 2s 6d to 4s gin-case.

Cherries.—Local: Choice Florence, 7s; black 6s to 7s, others 2s 6d to 4s 6d quarter-case.

Tomatoes.—Local: 2s to 2s 6d quarter-case.

Apricots.—Choice 7s to 8s, good 5s to 6s, small from 2s 6d half-case, and good 5s to 8s, medium 4s to 5s, jam lots 3s gin-case.

Oranges.—Choice 12s to 14s, prime 10s to 11s, medium 7s to 8s, small and large rough 5s to 6s gin-case. American: Navels, large 40s case.

Lemons.—Choice 3s 6d to 4s, good 2s 6d to 3s, small and large and rough 1s to 1s 6d gin-case.

Apples.—Local: Carringtons, prime 10s, good 5s to 8s, small 4s gin-case; Nelsons, cooking lots 3s to 6s, jam lots 2s gin-case.

Watermelons.—Queensland, 6s to 12s doz.

PRODUCE RETURNS.

The following is a complete list of produce received at Sydney, Clyde, Homebush, Burwood, Ashfield, Petersham, and Newtown per rail for the week ended Tuesday, December 27, together with the figures for the corresponding period of the preceding year:—

	1904.	1903.
Butter, kegs	28	45
Butter, cases	3046	5099
Cheese, cases	259	180
Eggs, cases	689	571
Bacon, bags	9	7
Bacon, sides	22	67
Hay, trucks	97	28
Straw, trucks	8	1
Chaff, trucks	84	108
Wool, bales	6861	7518
Sheepskins, bales	473	473
Wheat, tons	9723	9435
Flour, tons	675	297
Oats, tons	43	16
Barley, tons	129	25
Maize, tons	51	6
Meal, tons		20
Potatoes, tons	159	73
Bran, tons	282	163
Pollard, tons	6	80

STOCK TRUCKINGS.

For the sale of January 5 103 sheep vans and 66 cattle trucks, and for the sale of January 9, 6 sheep vans and 23 cattle waggons.

FAT STOCK SALES.

HOMEBUSH YARDS.—Thursday.

SHEEP.

About 14,071 sheep and lambs were penned at to-day's sales, from 67 consignors. The sheep mainly comprised medium and useful quality merino wethers, with a sprinkling of prime, and odd pens of extra prime. Occasional pens of merino ewes were forward, ranging from medium to prime. Crossbreds were moderately in evidence, generally of good quality, with a few prime and heavy. There was a moderate attendance of buyers, and as the supply, though light, was ample for trade requirements the market opened easier, and weakened under slack competition as the sales progressed for the lower qualities, while extra prime lots, which were none too plentiful, were equal to last Thursday's improved rates. The fall on good to prime was about 6d, and on the lower qualities 1s per head. Quotations:—Prime merino wethers 14s 6d to 16s, extra prime merino wethers 13s to 16s 6d, good merino wethers 12s to 13s, prime 12s 6d, medium merino wethers 10s to 11s; prime crossbred wethers 13s 6d to 16s 6d, extra prime 17s 6d to 18s 6d, good crossbred wethers 13s 6d to 14s 6d, medium crossbred wethers 11s 6d to 12s 6d; prime crossbred ewes 14s to 16s, good crossbred ewes 12s to 13s, medium crossbred ewes 11s to 11s 6d; prime merino ewes 12s to 13s, extra prime merino ewes 13s 6d to 14s 3d, good merino ewes 9s 6d to 10s 6d, medium merino ewes 8s to 8s 6d. The total number of sheep and lambs sold during this month was 136,810, and for the past 12 months 1,311,463 head. Sales:—

Maiden Bros.—W. C. Lyons, Harden 108 w 14s 6d to 15s, 53 14s 1d to 14s 3d, 23 xb h; ... Kelly, 385 w 12s 9d, 50 10s 6d; J. Berryman, Gilgandra, 267 w 12s 9d to 13s 6d, 97 14s 3d to 14s 7d, 35 w 14s 3d, 107

FUNERALS.

BURKE.—The Friends of Mr. CHARLES BURKE are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved WIFE, Margaret; to move from the Hospital for the Insane, Gladesville, THIS (Friday) MORNING, at 10 a.m., for the Church of England Cemetery, Field of Mars.
WOOD and COMPANY, Funeral Directors, Sydney and Suburbs. Tel., 726, etc.

OWENS.—The Friends of the deceased Mrs. JANE ANN OWENS are kindly invited to attend her Funeral; to move from her residence, 91 Wyndham-street, Alexandria, THIS, FRIDAY, at 1.30 p.m., for the Necropolis.
Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON,
Undertakers,
7 Elizabeth-street, city.

OWENS.—The Friends of Mr. PATRICK OWENS, of the Tramway Department, are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his dearly beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Jane Ann Owens; to move from her residence, 91 Wyndham-st, Alexandria, THIS, FRIDAY, at 1.30 p.m., for the R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood.

OWENS.—The Friends of Miss KATE OWENS are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of her dearly beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Jane Ann Owens; to move from her residence, 91 Wyndham-st, Alexandria, THIS, FRIDAY, at 1.30 p.m., for the R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood. Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Undertakers.

OWENS.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. JOHN and ANNIE RYAN are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of her dearly beloved AUNT, Mrs. Jane Ann Owens; to move from her residence, 91 Wyndham-st, Alexandria, THIS, FRIDAY, at 1.30 p.m., for the R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood. Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON.

KENNEDY.—The Friends of Mrs. JOHN KENNEDY are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of her late dearly loved HUSBAND, to leave his late residence, 48 Broughton-st., Glebe, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.30, for the Necropolis,
COFFILL and COMPANY,
Tel. 424, etc.

KENNEDY.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. SARGENT, Mr. and Mrs. HAWKINS, and Mr. and Mrs. RUSTON are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their late dearly loved BROTHER, John Kennedy; to leave 48 Broughton-street, Glebe, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.30, for the Necropolis.

KENNEDY.—The Friends of Messrs. JOHN, MICHAEL, PATRICK, PETER, JAMES, THOMAS, EDWARD, WILLIAM, and Miss CATHERINE WALL, and Mr. and Mrs. GLEESON are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their late dearly loved BROTHER-IN-LAW, John Kennedy; to leave 48 Broughton-street, Glebe, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.30, for the Necropolis. COFFILL and COMPANY.

DEAN.—The Friends of the deceased Mr. JOHN GEORGE DEAN are respectfully invited to attend his Funeral; to leave his late residence, 104 Flat-street, Ultimo, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.30, for the Necropolis.
COFFILL and COMPANY, Main Depot, Harris-street; Central Office, Rawson-place.
Tel. 1160, etc.

HORSFIELD.—The Friends of Mr. SAMUEL HORSFIELD are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his beloved WIFE, which will leave his residence, Redfern-street, Redfern, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for the Necropolis.
J. MEDCALF, Undertaker, Redfern.

HORSFIELD.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. STANLEY HORSFIELD are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Sarah Horsfield, which will leave her late residence, Redfern-street, Redfern, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for the Necropolis.

HORSFIELD.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM A. HORSFIELD are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Sarah Horsfield, which will leave her late residence, Redfern-street, Redfern, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for the Necropolis.

HORSFIELD.—The Friends of the Misses LILY and MAY HORSFIELD are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Sarah Horsfield, which will leave her late residence, Redfern-street, Redfern, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for the Necropolis.

HORSFIELD.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. ALBERT RICH are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Sarah Horsfield, which will leave her late residence, Redfern-street, Redfern, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for the Necropolis.

HORSFIELD.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. A. POOLE are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Sarah Horsfield, which will leave her late residence, Redfern-street, Redfern, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for the Necropolis.

HORSFIELD.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. SMEDLEY are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Sarah Horsfield, which will leave her late residence, Redfern-street, Redfern, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for the Necropolis. J. MEDCALF, Undertaker, Redfern.

GREEN.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES ARTHUR GREEN are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their dearly beloved DAUGHTER, Vera May; to move from their residence, Geminorium, Juliett-street, Marrickville, THIS (Friday) AFTERNOON, at 1.45, for Necropolis. F. W. Hartley, und. 3d. RITCHIE'S AGENCY, Petersham, opp. station, and Stanmore-road. Est. 1879. Tel., 122 P.

FURN. House, 2 double, 2 single Bedrms., draw. and din. rms., mod. rent. 55 Roslyn-st. Darlinghurst.

FURN. 7-rmd. House, best part D'hurst, mod., gd. tenant. City, Herald, Kings-st.

FURN. 5-rmd. COTTAGE, piano, 13s. Opp. 59 George-st, Waterloo, tram to Raglan-st.

FURN. 5-rmd. COTTAGE, piano, bath, garden, every conv., £3 5s p. w. 3 Raglan-st, nr. Redfern Pk.

FURNISHED, MOSMAN, Gentleman's COTTAGE, RESIDENCE, near tram, gd. locality, 6 rms., piano, linen, cutlery, gas stove, well furn., rent 35s p.w., any term. F. J. ROLLS, Estate Agent. Tel., 108 Mosman.

GEORGE-ST, Haymarket, 685.—Shops, nice show windows. Ashwood, 827 George-st, Sydney.

GEORGE-ST, 107, near Grace Bros.—Shop, suit milliner. Ashwood, 827 George-st, Sydney.

GLEBE POINT.—To Let, Tiverton Cottage, opp. tram term. John Lawler, No. 6 Union-lane.

HOUSE, 8 rms., every conven., healthy, pleasant, water front., 14s. J. Halstead, Lav. Bay, N. Syd.

HOUSE to Let, 4 rms., kit., washhouse, stove, copper, tubs, bath, cl. tram. 227 Church-st, Camp'down.

HOUSE, 4 rooms, kitchen, hall, bathroom, washhouse, copper, side ent., 14s. 102 Hereford-st, F. Lodge.

KATOOMBA.—Furn. Cottage, nr. stn., vacant Dec. 31. Owner, 20 Regent-st., Redfern. Tel. 167.

LINDFIELD.—Two Villas, land, well furn., 2½s and £2 10s. Mrs. Arnold, Beaconsfield P'de, 3 mins. st.

MANLY.—To Let, unfurnished, The Rest, 7 rooms, West Esplanade, 2 min. walk from steamers, splendid views of the harbour and Heads. Apply J. LAWLER, Union-lane, or Mr. ROBEY, Manly.

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NEWTOWN, 56 Dickson-street.—New Modern COTTAGE, 3 rooms, kit., washhouse, bathroom, street Boulevarded, and locality high-class, 12s 6d.

NOMINAL RENT.—Owner, leaving State, would LET, year or longer, NICE COUNTRY HOME, furn. or unfurn., 10 rs., etc., use cow, horses, traps, good air, water, 2½ac. land, 45min 8yd. Apply 155 Clevel.-st.

NEW Brick Cottages, Kepos, also Marriott sts, Redfern, close Crown-street tram, 4 rms., washhouses, gas, and every conv., rents only 13s and 14s, to those wishing to secure healthy and clean cottages, free fr. vermin., imp. these Cottages, which are built up-to-date. Mr. Clampett, 47 Marriott-st, off Regent-st.

NICE COUNTRY HOME to LET, or for SALE.—Family desiring change wd. let, year or more, comf., conv. Cott., 10 rms., offices, furn. or unfurn., 27 ac. land, stable, coachh'se, etc., use horses, traps, cow, fowls, good water, dry, healthy air, pleasant neighb., 1 mile stn., 28 8d., 4S2 yr. Marco, Herald, King-st.

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SALE, Nairn's Linos 1s 6d sq. yd.; inlaid, 2s 6d; Floorcloth, 3d; Carpet 9d., 2½d Sq. yd. 493 Geo.-st.

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Price, 7s 11d.
PLAIN ZEPHYR, in Heliotrope, Pink, Sky, and Butcher Blue, trimmed Hemstitched Frills edged White.
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